■ THIS ODD WORLD

## How to stop a snorer!

Fewer marriages will break up because of snoring if Franz Kobers from near Garmisch-Partenkirchen has his way. Franz loves to snore but he has invented an anti-snoring device which he calls Snore-Ex. He has applied for a patent, and the device has been registered as an untested model.

Snore-Ex, the brainwave of this old-age pensioner who wishes to end the "saw-rasping" under the sheets, is a very simple aid. It is shaped like a headband with a raised section far back on the inside.

This hump presses uncomfortably on the back of the head if the wearer sleeps on his back. This is the intention, since the snorer, disturbed by the bump, will turn on his side and stop rasping – and perhaps his exasperated wife from cursing.

Doctors say that people snore only when they lie on their backs because in this position the totally relaxed base of the tongue sinks back on the respiratory ducts, causing the dreaded snore.

Hopes of banishing snores from bedrooms everywhere are slim, however, because thirty per cent of people are believed to be "individualist" snorers. Of an estimated ten million snorers in the Federal Republic about 3,000 can snore on their sides, and full strength at that.

Franz Kobers says friends and relatives have been testing his Snore-Ex for a year and more. Three wives are eternally in his debt, he says. The device cured their husbands of protracted snoring.

Franz himself was exiled for a time from the marriage bed because of his snores. With Snore-Ex he has been readmitted, a fact that obviously pleases Franz very much.

The inventor of Snore-Ex is not the first to attempt to end snoring. Professor Knaus, famous for his calculations of the fertile days in the woman's monthly cycle, suggested that snoring could be cured with an elastic band that pulls the chin up and prevents the ducts from being blocked.

A Hamburg doctor even went so far as to suggest that the snorer should be placed between cushions and sandbags, so that he could not turn on his back. The most "brutal" method to cure snoring was devised by a Heidelberg professor. He advised snorers to drink coffee before going to bed, since people who don't sleep don't snore.

(Münchner Merkur, 30 May 1969)

## Burial among the pharaohs

A comfortable place of rest in the hereafter is offered by a 65-year-old Berliner – in the Egyptian desert. A grave there costs 2,300 Marks.

The cost of transporting the body by air must also be paid. A flight from Berlin to Aswan costs 2,963 Marks, according to a prospectus which many doctors, travel agents and undertakers in West Berlin received recently.

The brochure also advertises homes for the aged in Egypt. This "saves the cost of transporting the body." A room in one of these homes, with first-class facilities and air-conditioning, costs 800 to 1,200 Marks monthly.

Making the offer more attractive, the brochure adds, "For elderly people who wish to spend the evening of their lives in Egypt the ventilated graves are of special interest.....They are one of the advantages of Egypt and are situated on the ... hills on both sides of the Nile."

Waxing mystical, the brochure ... "Who hesitates? Death loses its ... when the place of rest is made perfe... the harmonious fulfilment of the ... circle of life and death."

The conditions for this fulfilme... especially favourable in Egypt. ... strong desert sun reduces the dan... infection, so that decomposition ... place with a full supply of oxygen."

The cheapest graves – "the ... beneath a mound of clay ... decorated" – cost 2,300 Marks ... includes the expense of tending them.

Graves, "dug into the stony dept... the earth, covered by slabs and ston... cost about 5,000 Marks. Those who ... to rest as comfortably as the Aga Kh... a mausoleum can have one for 10,00... 250,000 Marks.

The brochure is not a macabre ... The graves are really for sale.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 5 June ...)

## Fly me to the moon!

Bookings for trips to the moon are coming in at a fast rate – about 120 in this country already. These are people who are prepared to fly to the moon at the first opportunity, and to pay dearly for it.

Panam, the American airline that takes the bookings, is expecting greater demand for moon trips after the successful return of Apollo 10. Many bookings came in after the Apollo 8 flight.

The Bavarians seem most moonstruck. Panam's Munich agency has accepted 54 bookings. Sixteen people in Hamburg want to fly to the moon, and 26 bookings have come in from Hanover and Frankfurt.

Only one person in Bonn wants to set foot on the moon. Panam is at a loss to say, however, when the first civilian take-off for the moon can be expected.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 29 May 1969)

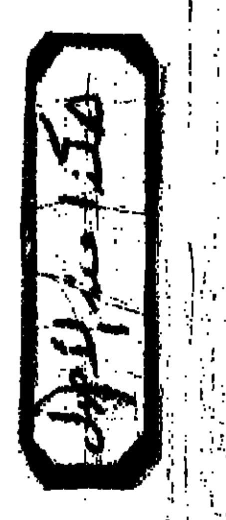
## Letters delivered efficiently even to the dead!

Three inhabitants of Rattelsdorf ... the village priest a postcard while ... outing. By mischance it was addressed to the priest who had died ten years previously.

The postman knew what to ... however. On his round he made a sh... detour and laid the card on the grave of the deceased.

(Hannoversche Presse, 31 May 1969)






# The German Tribune

Hamburg, 1 July 1969
Eighth Year - No. 377 - By Air

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

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## Reflections on Pompidou's presidential victory

Industriekurier

The good will for Franco-Federal Republic cooperation voiced by the Federal government following Georges Pompidou's election as President of France cannot disguise the fact that relations with France will remain cool for the time being.

This is due less to differences of opinion on matters of present policy than to the blunt manner in which politicians in this country favoured Alain Poher, the loser in the Presendential run-off, rather than M. Pompidou.

Franco-Federal Republic friendship will consequently at first be a mere formality for the new French President, a sine qua non rather than a programme. It will then be up to the newly-elected German Federal government to add new personal and political notes to relations between the two countries.

It can be assumed with some degree of certainty that M. Pompidou will be unable to continue General de Gaulle's style of government. During the election campaign he hinted that if elected he would form a government in which the political centre was represented.

This would amount to a liberalisation – one could almost say a demythologisation – of French politics. The prospects of an expansion of French policies would be greater than before; so would those of an expansion fo the Common Market. There would then be better prospects of greater Franco-Federal Republic cooperation.

Can President Pompidou maintain a policy of centre participation, though? Will the Gaullist majority accept a policy that in the long run would lead to parliamentary rule again? M. Pompidou has already made an attempt to distinguish between himself and his Gaullist followers. They are intended to remain his followers but he does not propose to rubber-stamp their policies. This entirely tallies with the attitude of General de Gaulle, who was never a Gaullist.

General de Gaulle saw the consent by plebiscite of the French people as his legitimation. The Gaullists were his election aides, his team, nothing more. His success in this outlook was due to his aura of having been the saviour of France.

President Pompidou is not in the same situation. He lacks the charisma of solitary grandeur. He needs rational justification of his policies.

There are many indications that even if he does not choose to reintroduce parliamentarianism into French political life he may have to change the Gaullist movement into a genuine party with which he will identify himself and for the fate of which he will be responsible.

At all events, then, M. Pompidou will have publicly to outline his policy concepts. In the election campaign he announced his intention of pursuing a more liberal economic policy. Yet an economic policy of this kind calls for a considered programme of reform.

The way things are the French government will continue to be compelled to pursue a long-term policy of austerity and controls, unless it devalues the franc soon and links up more closely with the Common Market. If Pompidou wants to devalue he will have to reach a swift decision.

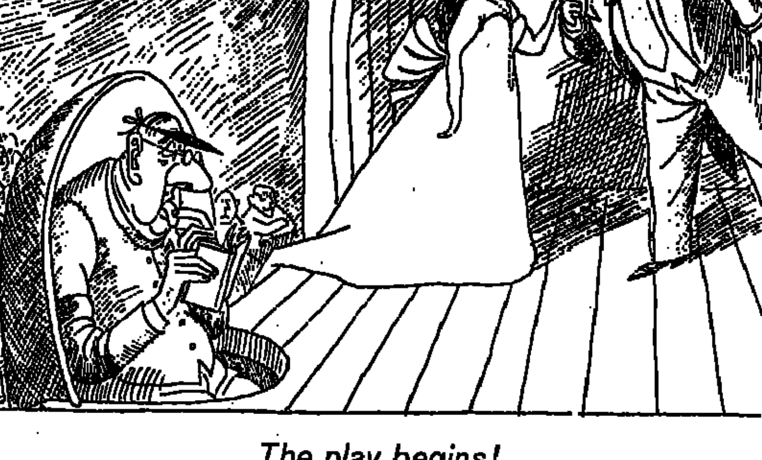
Franc devaluation would at the same time represent a challange to this country's monetary policy. In all probability it would also represent a challange to Franco-Federal Republic friendship.

It would certainly make a reform of French social policy easier and this is a reform that M. Pompidou will not be able to avoid after the Communists' showing in the Presidential elections.

The Communists may not have succeeded in forging a popular front against Pompidou and Poher but they did prove that they have recovered from their weakness over the last couple of years.

Unless the French government counters the rearranged French Communist Party with energetic social measures it will be liable to sustain injury from the left wing of the political spectrum and provide the Kremlin with a possibility of intervening in French home affairs.

*Rüdiger Altmann*
(Industriekurier, 21 June 1969)



The play begins!

(Cartoon: E. M. Lang/Süddeutsche Zeitung)

## IN THIS ISSUE



## Nixon pursues peace in Vietnam at all costs

America is drawing the appropriate conclusions from years of outright condemnation of its Vietnam policy and from the realisation that it cannot win the limited war it is waging in South-East Asia.

President Nixon's announcement that American army units are to be withdrawn from South Vietnam by the end of 1970 means that he intends to end the war as soon as possible, even if he may not be able to keep to this deadline.

The East will register the news with satisfaction and young revolutionaries will be jubilant. There are reasons to doubt whether public figures and officials, in the Free World, ranging from Washington to Paris and Tokyo, who are also critical of the White House's Vietnam policy are equally satisfied.

It is not yet clear what the consequences of American withdrawal from Vietnam will be but the political landscape in South-East Asia will, in the long run, undergo fundamental changes – and not only South-East Asia will be affected.

In many countries the announcement of America's intention to pull out of Vietnam has given rise to fear that the United States will end all its commitments in Asia, whether of its own free will or not, after having shown in Vietnam that it has an Achilles heel.

This was evident at the last Seato conference, at which delegates were unable in their uncertainty about America's future role to strike a balance between increased defence preparedness and open policies towards the communist world. They parted company still undecided.

The same anxiety about afterwards overshadowed the Ministerial meeting of the Asian and Pacific Council at the beginning of June in Kawana, near Tokyo. The council, which aims at mutual economic ties in the East and South Pacific came no nearer to its target at the meeting because there can be no foreseeing developments following American withdrawal from South-East Asia.

Richard Nixon's announcement will increase the inclination in Asia to place no trust in purely military alliances with the West. His assurance that the United States will continue to support South Vietnam makes no difference.

There will be little stopping the decline in confidence in American protection. Not only a military but also a moral vacuum is developing and no one knows how to fill it.

It is hard to see what prompted President Nixon to make his sensational announcement at the present juncture. It can hardly, in view of past experience, be hope of Hanoi being forthcoming at the Paris Vietnam talks.

He is probably mistaken should it be that he sees a silver lining in reports of falling Veltcong morale, and large numbers of Red deserters. The Communists have means enough of re-establishing discipline.

The only explanation that remains is the will to bring about peace in South Vietnam regardless of the consequences. The world will have to adapt to this change here and now. It would be too easy to lament the negative consequences of disengagement after the Free World has refused to back the Americans in their bitterest hour.

*Walter Beck*
(Kieler Nachrichten, 21 June 1969)

## FOREIGN AFFAIRS

# Paper-thin ideological unity maintained at world communist conference

In revolutionary red and every language under the sun slogans of proletarian unity blazed from the podium of the Kremlin's congress hall on the Tuesday evening before Communist Party leaders from 75 countries left for home.

Their sunburnt faces looked relaxed and in good humour as the Bolshoi ballet danced to the strains of the Internationale. At that very moment great success was being proclaimed in the final communiqué of the twelve-day conference of half the communist world. To what extent was self-satisfaction the result of self-deception?

It was known long before the conference that Communists, both Russian and Chinese, are and will remain agreed on many international issues. A new basic policy document more than forty pages long that is now being hailed as a tremendous outcome was hardly needed.

Admittedly, an additional paper-thin covering of ideological unity was created. It is broad enough and full enough of loopholes for most parties that prefer, or have no alternative but to side with Moscow rather than Peking to give it their approval.

Who indeed would attach importance to the strict refusal to sign on the part of the sectarian Dominican CP or to the cordial but firm distance of the Cuban and Swedish observers, who represented the left and right wing of the Moscow gathering? Even First Secretary Nicolae Ceausescu of Rumania with his heretical views felt able to accept the flexible formulae of the conference compromise.

The attitude of the Italian and Australian Communists, who in the end only approved a third of the document, is apparently of little import in comparison with the impressive figure of nearly sixty of the 75 parties on pilgrimage to Moscow that accepted the long-discussed basic document without the slightest objection.

A group of a further ten parties finally signed despite critical objections, which in part were taken into account. Thirty out of a final seventy amendments proposed by 24 parties are to be found in the final version.

Yet impressive though the outward picture may have been, carefully and lovingly as the differences were eventually papered over, the ageing face of the international communist movement, scarred by many a wound and distorted even since the break with China, was only too evident during the fortnight of the communist summit.

The absence of five countries amputated the international socialist system to which even Hungarian party leader Janos Kadar reckoned fourteen countries (including China, Albania and Yugoslavia) to belong. From the start all hopes were dashed that it might prove possible to forge genuine, not merely fragmentary unity of world communism again, let alone regain the general party line Walter Ulbricht's crown prince Erich Honecker had still proclaimed as the target at last year's Budapest preparatory conference.

The attempt to cover up this dismal state of affairs would only have half succeeded if the restraint in dealing with absent friends demanded by many had been observed. This aim was achieved in the framing of the final documents, in which no one is attacked, not even the Chinese.

In debate even Tito's Yugoslavia, which a few weeks ago was still decried by many parties as a source of revisionist pestilence, came off lightly. Critical references were phrased in such vague terms that everyone or no one could feel themselves meant. The contrast between the document intended to deal with the main problems of the age and the actual course of conference debate was all the more grotesque.

While the document does not seriously worry anyone, not even the evil imperialists with whom, when all is said and done, the Kremlin is anxious to pursue a policy of coexistence. Discussion of the draft grew more and more heated from one day to the next in view of the Chinese challenge. Most speakers pounced on the traitorous fraternal party in the Far East so avidly that they might have been intent on regaining their own ideological innocence in the struggle against Mao Tse-tung.

First Secretary Leonid Brezhnev lit the blue touch paper of these verbal fireworks and Chairman Mao added fuel to the fire by means of well-timed frontier incidents. The Soviet declaration on China of 13 June, swiftly distributed in all languages, lent the strife with Peking millenial proportions with its well-founded historical comments.

It almost went unnoticed that the conflict was a struggle between two great powers, both of which are communist-ruled. It suddenly seemed incontrovertible – and this was Leonid Brezhnev's intention – that the national interest of the Soviet Union coincided with the international interests of the working-class movement and the better part of humanity.

DIE ZEIT
WOCHENZEITUNG
FÜR POLITIK, WIRTSCHAFT, HANDEL UND KULTUR

Few party leaders managed to escape this compulsion and criticise Peking in more moderate terms. Characteristically enough these few included Nicolae Ceausescu – and Gustav Husak. The one did so in order not to lose face as a "neutral," the other because he realised what Mr Brezhnev had either failed to realise or decided to risk in view of the threat from the Far East: that the door was thus wide open not only to anti-Chinese criticism but also to criticism of any kind, which meant that the Czech issue could no longer be kept in the background.

Mr Brezhnev avoided mention of Czechoslovakia and the five Warsaw Pact countries that had participated in the invasion took good care not to emphasise the issue. First Secretary Husak's Platonic request to wait until the Czech CP produced its own analysis of the situation and exercise restraint in the intervening period was addressed to no one in particular and no doubt so intended.

In his diplomatically polished, orthodox draped speech that was nonetheless rich in allusions Dr Husak provided material enough for debate. He insisted that his party had had sufficient reserves of power to maintain socialism in Czechoslovakia and that the causes of the Czech crisis were the same after August 1968 as they had been beforehand. Intervention, then, was, to say the least, unnecessary.

Gustav Husak's conclusions, he drily noted, were that the linking of national and international interests is fairly easy and can fairly effectively be expressed in an abstract declaration but is more complicated in political practice. This comment hit the nail on the head as far as the entire Kremlin debate and its final paper declaration were concerned.

This appeared to dawn on the very few parties that expressly welcomed the Soviet invasion. No one seemed eager to argue with the dozen or so parties that had equally expressly condemned the invasion.

Withdrawal to non-committal but harmonious-sounding unitary phraseology was more convenient than specific, painful Marxist analysis. Only the Italian, Australian, Belgian and Swiss Communists courageously abandoned the [illegible] collection of museum-piece clichés that even such a self-willed man as Nicolae Ceausescu of Rumania had resorted to for reasons of tactical obscurantism.

Enrico Berlinguer of Italy spoke of a crisis of internationalism and appealed for frank debate of all differences of opinion "particularly as no one believes us nowadays when we proclaim our agreement on everything."

Without doubt the Kremlin debate was franker than ever before, whether intentionally or not. The whole gamut of communist interests, worries and hopes came to the fore, but no answer was forthcoming to the question as to how strong or weak imperialism as the epitome of everything evil in the world has become or whether and which Social Democrats are reasonable and where the dividing line between avoidable war and inevitable international class struggle lies.

What the basic document has to say about all these points is a collection of compromise formulas rather than a genuine basis for action. The publicity that was given to the communist view of the world and the novelty that for the first time ever every citizen of the Soviet Union has been able to read in *Pravda* what every one of the 75 parties, including the opposition wing, had to say and so could see for himself what the state of proletarian internationalism is could well have repercussions.

It will add to the prestige of the parties that are prepared *to contemplate* reform and could *take the wind* out of doctrinaire *Communists'* sails. It could do so once unorthodox opinions are no longer rated as heresy but as a step on the road to a new state international class struggle lies.

*Hansjakob Stehle*

(DIE ZEIT, 20 June 1969)



# Warmer relations with Poland?

Recent marked cordiality on the part of the Poles in welcoming representatives of the Federal Republic and Governing Mayor Schütz of West Berlin, not to mention the response this welcome has given rise to in this country, has been almost worrying.

Until Wladyslaw Gomulka's speech proposing an agreement between Bonn and Warsaw on the Oder-Neisse frontier along the lines of the agreement concluded between East Berlin and Warsaw there appeared to be no the slightest prospect of agreement between Warsaw and non-communist Germany.

On 16 June the Polish Foreign Minister, Stefan Jedrychowski, who is also a member of his party's central committee, received Klaus Schütz, a member of the party council of this country's Social Democratic Party, Governing Mayor of West Berlin and one-time Secretary of State to Foreign Minister Willy Brandt.

Foreign Minister Jedrychowski did not receive his guest in the offices of the central committee but in the Foreign Ministry. When it is remebered how meticulously the Poles distinguish between the Foreign Ministry and the Ministry of Foreign Trade in dealings with this country's trade mission in Warsaw this nuance is worth noting.

The same is true in part of the Polish host's cordial gesture of welcoming Herr Schütz in German. In other countries this might, perhaps, represent little more than diplomatic courtesy. In Warsaw it bears thinking about.

International lawyers and protocol experts will alight on the discussions with joy. For politicians on both sides it ought to be more important that they took place, that views were exchanged and that at least a number of starting-points for further discussion were probed in a cordial atmosphere.

This alone is a great deal. Let it be hoped that it is not already too much for people who take a dim view of reasonable developments.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 17 June 1969)

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PUBLISHER:
Friedrich Reinecke

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF:
Eberhard Wagner

ASSISTANT EDITOR-IN-CHIEF:
Otto Heinz

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Geoffrey Penny

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Heinz Reinecke

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## 17 JUNE

# Reunification must remain the supreme aim of Bonn's policies

Sixteen years ago today a procession of building workers from Stalinallee in East Berlin to the House of Ministries in the centre of the city in support of demands for reasonable work norms marked the beginning of a wave of protest in the GDR against a political system that oppressed the general public.

What at first was a peaceful demonstration developed into an uprising that quickly spread over large areas of the Soviet Zone and cost many victims. The struggle against the regime lasted only a few days. Soviet armoured brigades moved in, just as they were to in Budapest in 1956 and in Prague in 1968.

In this country 17 June was declared a public holiday as an expression of powerless anger and genuine sorrow. Nowadays the facts of the 1953 uprising are hardly recalled by many people. It has become a day off work like many others.

The after-taste of a bank holiday is not the fault of the general public but mainly that of those who have misused 17 June, German Unity Day, to deliver cliché-ridden speeches and bombastic political lyrics. It is now evident that the tragic events on June 1953 brought the country *not* one step nearer reunification.

This is not to decry the sacrifices made by the people of the Soviet Zone. It is merely to state a sober political fact. In its present form German Unity Day will continue to be of no service to the idea of reunification.

Years ago the Council for Germany Indivisible raised the issue of whether 17 June was to remain a day of thoughtlessness or to gain new meaning. In all-day session the Bundestag is today trying to bring this about.

The Chancellor is to deliver a state of the nation address and the Bundestag and the Federal government are so to demonstrate that the Germans remain one nation in this country's consciousness despite the frontier that runs through the middle of the country and the ardour with which the powers that be in East Berlin deny the assertion.

Demonstrating workers at the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin on 17 June 1953 (Photo: Archiv/Landesbildstelle Berlin)

Reunification of the German people must remain the supreme aim of this country's policies. Many errors have been made in this respect over the last decade and a half. The day of remembrance could regain new significance if it were used to recall the uprising and its victims and develop and jointly formulate ideas as to what can be done with the aid of all politically relevant forces.

Reunification will not come about as a result of revolutionary emotion nor will it take the form of the 1938 *Anschluss*. In political terms it can only come about by means of rapprochement and balancing of interests.

This will be a long path on which the interests of the great powers and those of the German people will not always coincide. This too soberly be borne in mind. Active peace policy is the only constructive way of promoting restoration of national unity. Despite the setbacks and disappointments experienced and to be expected there is no alternative.

*Wolfgang Fechner*

(Hannoversche Presse, 17 June 1969)

# Chancellor Kiesinger addresses Bundestag on Unity Day

The situation in Germany has grown more rigid. This country's policy on the German Question is correspondingly tougher. This is one of the conclusions that must be drawn from Chancellor Kiesinger's 17 June state of the nation address to the Bundestag. A report on the state of the German people cannot nowadays be based on production figures or positions in the world trading stakes.

Dr Kiesinger accordingly deliberately avoided mentioning that this country is an economic giant and a political dwarf. The content and yardsticks of his analysis were based on the fact that we remain a divided people, a reality that makes it impossible to harbour illusions and view the world through rose-tinted spectacles.

Even though the Chancellor did not state that the government's German policy has proved a failure he was unable to outline an alternative. Foreign Minister Willy Brandt evidently saw no solution either at the moment, commenting that we alone no longer have the power to cope with division.

Recognition is no way out of this dead end. It would only widen division and acknowledge an injustice to be just. Talk of possibly coming to terms with East Berlin ant any level short of full recognition should at long last stop in view of Herr Ulbricht's reactions to Bonn's proposals.

Walter Ulbricht is not interested in points the two parts of Germany have in common. Nor is Moscow. He orders his troops to shoot at refugees on the border between the two parts of Germany and he sent troops into Czechoslovakia too.



Chancellor Kiesinger addressing the Bundestag on 17 June (Photo: dpa)

Yet both parts of Germany must play a part in relaxation of tension in Europe.

The virtually hopeless situation this country is in as regards the German Question is not the result of Bonn not having tried hard enough or made specific proposals. In future Herr Ulbricht will have to be ignored more. Reunification cannot be brought about with him, only against his will. He will hear nothing at all of, for instance, easier travel between the two parts of the country.

*Hans Leymann*

(Kieler Nachrichten, 19 June 1969)

**The Bundestag functioned as usual on 17 June, the Day of German Unity. Chancellor Kiesinger addressed the Bundestag on the state of the nation in a divided Germany. The following are selected passages from the Chancellor's speech.**

The fundamental political orders in the two parts of Germany today differ in their structures and aims more than ever. Our Basic Law which became effective twenty years ago created a free democratic and social State based on the rule of law. It has made human dignity and human freedom the highest principle for any governmental action and embodied them in basic rights, the essence of which even the legislator cannot encroach upon. This Basic Law enabled a vigorous social and governmental system to develop here which has secured for every citizen a life in freedom and for the nation propserity and social justice.

In contrast to this, developments so far in the other part of Germany, and especially the new constitution of the "GDR" of April 1968, leaves no room for the existence of a free and social community...

This should give food for thought to those appeasers and euphemists among us who are advocating recognition of the "GDR".

Naturally, we are confronted with the fact that on the other side 17 million people are governed by rulers that they have not freely elected, and must obey laws they have not freely approved of. But these 17 million citizens do not regard themselves as a nation forming a separate state as is obviously the case with the people of Eastern Europe. And this is precisely the basic difference between them and the nations of the "socialist camp". Thus what is missing is not only their approval of the regime and of the "constitution" imposed on them, but also their approval of the mere existence of a so-called second German state...

On seeing our own efforts to promote contacts with the other part of Germany, some foreigners may ask why we want to prevent other countries from doing what we ourselves are trying to do. But the contacts we seek are aimed at neither de facto nor de jure recognition. The purpose of these contacts is to mitigate the hardships which division brings for our nation and to preserve the unity of the German people in spite of that division. Recognition, however, implies just the opposite. The rulers in the other part of Germany leave no doubt as to this – recognition is intended to widen the gap...

Nothing that has occured since the last Report on the State of the Nation can change the foreign policy and the policy with regard to Germany initiated by the Federal Government. The principles of that policy therefore remain unchanged: Openness, readiness for understanding and renunciation of the use of force, without giving up our rights...

From the outset, the German people in the Federal Republic has set its hope not only on the rebuilding of its own existence as a state and on the restoration of German unity. As stated in the Basic Law, it wanted to serve peace in the world as an equal partner in a united Europe. Today, after twenty years of sometimes successful, often disappointing development this determination has not weakened as is shown by all public opinion polls. As a vigorous people, as a solidly built state, we understand ourselves as part of an emerging European community which derives its own strength from the combined vigour of its members. Our people realises: Only a united Europe can prevent others to determine the fate of her peoples, only a united Europe will be able to take part in framing the future of our world...

## LAW

# Statute of limitations dilemma

### COALITION PARTIES COME TO AGREEMENT

Something out of the ordinary has happened. Against the will (or perhaps ill will) of most people in this country and what is more with the country half-way and wholeheartedly engaged in a general election campaign the Bonn Grand Coalition of Christian and Social Democrats has found a way out of the undergrowth of the statute of limitations that can be taken with an easy conscience.

Whether, after the first reading of the three different Bills before the Bundestag, preference is given to the general abolition of a lapse of crimes of murder after a certain period of time as foreseen by the Federal government or the parliamentary parties, as was to be hoped and expected, agree to the unanimous recommendation of lengthening the period during which the statute does not apply from twenty to thirty years is of secondary importance in comparison with the decision not to allow the period during which Nazi murder crimes can be prosecuted to expire at the end of this year.

In either case the effect is the same. The crimes that made the history of this country responsible for the deaths of millions of innocent people will not become no longer punishable by law. By 1979, assuming the period during which crimes of murder can still be prosecuted is extended by a further ten years, all major cases will have been brought to light or else the problem of the guilty parties will have been solved by the normal processes of ageing.

It may, of course, be argued that crimes for which life imprisonment is the punishment general abolition of the statute of limitations would be both more appropriate and more just. Thirty years after a murder guilty parties discovered too late may get off scot-free while others who were "unlucky" enough to be found out earlier spend the remainder of their lives behind bars.

Yet it can be asserted with equal justification that the application of the statute of limitations even in the case of murder is in accord with legal traditions in this country.

Should the second of the two solutions prove to be the basis of agreement it will of course unquestionably have been a compromise but it would be meaningless to talk of a rotten one. Either way it will no longer be possible to talk in terms of this country having failed politically, morally or legally in the face of a virtually insoluble problem. The Bundestag should not hesitate to approve one or other of the two Bills without delay.

It would be most superfluous for one or other of the protagonists in the Grand Coalition to worry at this stage who has




triumphed over whom. When all is said and done, there could be malicious speculation as to what decided the issue: common sense or frank coincidence in the form of a regrettable legal mishap.

No illusions should be harboured. The introduction of the new § 50, section 2 of the penal code, together with its implications for the statute of limitations on accessaries after the fact of murder (implications overlooked by all leading legal specialists in the country) and particularly the interpretation made by the Federal Supreme Court, has been the *deus ex machina* that has helped to bring the tragedy of the statute of limitations to a fairly satisfactory solution. Christian Democratic and Christian Social Union politicians who up till this point had blocked the proceedings with their demands for a differentiation that could not fail to mean a limitation in the number of cases tried found the ground swept from beneath their feet. A West Berlin court ruling has now had the required effect.

If trials of Nazi crimes are now viewed merely from the viewpoint of legal practice the only question that remains is who on earth can still be brought to brook and whether or not the data ought to be handed straight over to the archives from which history is compiled.

To go into this aspect in detail, however, would be to deal with a multitude of sins. There is no such thing as justice for all, both the accused and the plaintiff, without doubt or uncertainty and in every single instance. Let alone the fact that the legal system can only provide a modest answer to the injustice connected with the thousand-year Reich.

The lawmakers in Bonn in the final analysis could only make an honest attempt to assume responsibility for a decision on the statute of limitations. After a great deal of iffing and butting they have finally done so, and it would be unfair to give all the credit to coincidence.

There was, for instance, the massive determination of Gustav Heinemann, who did not falter and yield in his will to see justice done even when all seemed lost. There was the tactical skill of the present Minister of Justice, Horst Ehmke, together with the loyalty to principles in the argument about differentiation that took him via the Bundesrat, the Federal Republic's upper house, the Chancellor and the Cabinet back to the coalition parties in an attempt to solve this vexatious problem.

Nor must Agriculture Minister Hermann Höcherl, the wily Bavarian, be forgotten. He is the man who worked out the final compromise proposal. Or ex-Justice Minister Richard Jaeger who, to the surprise of many of his opponents, sounded the right note in the Bundestag on behalf of his parliamentary party.

Opponents of the coalition compromise kept quiet and they did well to do so. They would be well advised to vote with the majority in the final division. This would make a decision that represents a gain in popularity for no one party in particular more convincing both at home and abroad.

Many people in this country who have heard and seen more than enough of the past even though they may not have been able to digest it inwardly should not overlook the fact that the Bundestag is at least in the process of marking a firm deadline on the crucial legal aspect.

*Oskar Fehrenbach*

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 12 June 1969)

# Legislators make a step towards coming to acceptable terms with the past

The latest parliamentary treatment of the government Bill to abolish the statute of limitations in respect of murder and genocide represents a promising step in the direction of finally dealing with this vexatious problem.

The controversial issue of the prosecution of Nazi crimes of violence after the end of this year has occupied parliament and the general public too long, creating tension in domestic politics in the process.

At long last it is probable to the extent of certainly that after the first reading of the government and coalition party Bills

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to abolish or lengthen the period prior to the application of the statute of limitations on murder and genocide a Bill will be passed that will enable the agents of the law who uncover further culprits on or after 31 December 1969 to bring them to book.

The pressure of time on government and parliament in dealing with the issue and the compulsion to deal with one of the outstanding questions the Grand Coalition set out to resolve are but minor reasons why agreement has been reached.

It has come to be realised that it would be neither legally nor politically, still less morally advocable for this country to insist on twenty years being the maximum period during which Nazi crimes of violence can be prosecuted and so declare itself prepared to live with people who are guilty of the gravest crimes against humanity.

Had the period during which crimes could still be punished been allowed to expire on 31 December 1969 this country would have found itself in the intolerable position of Nazi crimes of violence coming to light that could no longer be punished by law here. This prospect is amply made likely by the announcement of the Ludwigsburg Central Office for combating Nazi crimes that the unearthing of new complexes after 1969 is a prospect that must be taken into account.

Limitation or non-limitation is a complex that has already been the subject of countless Bundestag debates in which opponents and advocates of the statue of limitations have discussed the pros and cons seriously and passionately.

At long last the government and the parties represented in the ruling coalition have plainly stated their views and made the recent debate an impressive plea on behalf on the obligation to prosecute Nazi crimes of violence in future too.

As Justice Minister Horst Ehmke emphasised in his fundamental address, it is not a question of the little man, the man who himself became a victim of an injust system. It is not a matter of prosecuting political failure but purely and simply one of punishing criminal acts committed during the Nazi period.

Past and present trials of Nazi criminals that spell out the facts for all who are prepared to listen tell a shattering tale of incomprehensible bestiality. In view of the shocking evidence presented day by day the feeling, still in evidence among the general public, that the Nazi trials are embarrassing and represent washing dirty linen in public is hard to credit.

How many more times must it be said that it is a question of murderers, not of political failures and subordinates, a question of justice and not one of perpetuating guilt complexes for all time! The latest Bundestag debate on the statute of limitations made this unmistakeably clear yet again.

Let it be hoped that a prompt decision on the inapplicability of the statute of limitations to Nazi crimes of violence will bring to a final conclusion this lamentable chapter of coming to terms with the past.

*C.M.Lankau*

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 12 June 1969)

# Offences against state security

Almost unanimously the Bundestag has decided to introduce a second legal instance for proceedings on offences against state security regulations. In future the Supreme Courts of the states are first to deal with cases of this kind and the Federal Supreme Court is to be the court of appeal. The Director of Public Prosecutions is to remain the authority responsible for instituting proceedings, even in state courts, and the Federal President is to remain able to pardon.

A legal demand made with increasing urgency since the 1962 Spiegel affair has finally been dealt with after years of lamentation. As a matter of principle there are to be no offences under criminal law on which only one court can pass judgment, a jedgment against which there can be no appeal.

But this change is far from home and dry. The Bundesrat, the Federal Republic's upper house, agrees with the Bundestag in principle but would prefer a different wording.

According to the version adopted by the Bundestag court cases on matters of state security are a Federal affair, part of which is delegated to the states. The states would like the Bill to read so that they are made responsible in principle for all initial legal proceedings, including those on matters of state security, and permitting the Director of Public Prosecutions to prosecute and the Federal President to pardon only in exceptional circumstances.

This is a storm in a tea cup. Even so, the Bundesrat voted unanimously in favour of the first reading of this amendment. It can only be hoped that common sense will prevail over principle.

(Handelsblatt, 13 June 1969)



## LABOUR RELATIONS

# No immediate amendments to Wage Agreements Act expected

No amendment to the Wage Agreements Act is envisaged by the Bundestag during the remaining life of the present parliament. Running-board drivers, an epithet used to describe non-union employees who benefit from wage and other agreements negotiated between the unions and the employers, can rest assured that they will continue to be at no disadvantage for the time being.

There are, however, signs that the next Bundestag may seek to draw a distinction between union and non-union workers in certain sectors of wage and other agreements.

In connection with the passage of an amendment to the Protection from Notice (Employment) Act the Bundestag may call on the Federal government to continue its efforts to consolidate and develop labour legislation in close cooperation with the two sides of industry.

Above all the problems that have developed in recent years as a result of case law on wage agreements are to be considered and where necessary legislation proposed.

Helmut Schmidt, chairman of the Social Democratic parliamentary party, made it clear at the conference of IG Bau, the building workers union, that reform initiativers on the Wage Agreements Act, now more than twenty years old, can be expected independently of Federal government proposals.

Maintenance and continued eypansion of the government interference-free sector in which th two sides of industry may reach agreemtns was, Herr Schmidt noted, a likely key sector of parliamentary activity during the life of the forthcoming Bundestag. Legislation would be passed to clear the conscience of the Federal Labour Court,

The crux of the debate is the decision made by the highest body of the Federal Labour Court in November 1967 with specific reference to the law as it at present stands. It follows from the court's ruling that parties to wage agreements may not make agreements that have repercussions to outsiders.

In the opinion of the Federal Labour Court the employers and the trade unions are not allowed to agree to additional holiday money for all employees but

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slightly more for union members, as proposed by IG Textil, the clothing and textile workers union.

The Wage Agreements Act contains no bar on employees who derive the benefits of trade union policies without paying for them. There is no regulation allowing for offsetting the cost of wage agreements not met by non-organised labour.

The judges acknowledged that a certain contribution by the outsiders could perhaps be viewed as right and just but in view of wage agreements law and the constitutional right not to belong to a trade union they felt it was not in order to develop the law still further. This, they pointed out, was up to the lawmakers.

Herr Sperner, chairman of IG Bau, emphasised in his speech to union delegates that without fresh legislation labour courts are not in a position to pass judgments that conform to today's view of society.

Fresh legal bases for labour arbitration should, in the trade unions' view, at the very least maker possible the operation of institutions jointly agreed by the employers and the trade unions in such a way that outsiders are not in a position to laugh up their sleeves.

### Limitations

One requirement is for wage agreements to be declared only partially generally valid by the Ministry of Labour should the two sides of industry agree to make the appropriate application. In this way, for instance, outsider employers could be included in joint schemes (a holiday fund, for instance) without outsider employees standing to benefit, or indeed vice-versa.

Distinctions of this kind are, of course, first and foremost intended to induce non-organised labour to join trade unions, or at least to convey the impression that not joining involves no financial advantage.

Many employers take a dim view of this aim as it would involve differentiating between employees on the basis of their union membership, something management would like to avoid. IG Textil, incidentally, has submitted the ruling of the Federal Labour Court to the Federal Constitutional Court. The court's decision as to whether the ban on a discriminatory agreement is constitutional or not will be of considerable significance.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 11 June 1969)

# No discord at building workers union Wiesbaden conference

There was no sign of the controversy that marks other trade union conferences at Wiesbaden. IG Bau, the building workers union, the third-largest in the Federal Republic Trade Union Confederation with more than half a million members, evidently felt quite happy with the role of "good boy" it played at its eighth conference. There was no discord and no icy breeze that might have worried employers or politicians.

At times it almost seemed as though the conference was a peaceful family gathering. Yet to start with there was an



Rudolf Sperner (Photo: dpa)

air of surprise as the executive came in for attack during discussion of the annual report.

This criticism, however, came from a certain quarter. It was voiced mainly by members of the Federal Republic Communist Party. Newly-elected chairman Rudolf Sperner gave the Communists an unmistakeable thumbs-down:

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"In our union anyone can hold his own political views," Sperner said. "But we cannot allow brothers who have no opportunity of bringing influence to bear in political life to use our trade union as a base for pushing through their political ideas."

As unrealistic as it is to fear that the Communists might take over the building workers' union, there can be no doubt that no other union will lend the Social Democrats more support in the present general election campaign than IG Bau. Karl Schiller's economic policy was praised in no uncertain terms at Wiesbaden and any criticism of it was swiftly and effectively blunted.

It came as something of a surprise, on the other hand, that IG Bau decided of its own accord not to foster contacts with the Eastern Bloc as there was no point in so doing. The building workers were evidently contradicting the Trade Union Confederation's Munich resolutions to resume contacts with the Eastern Bloc broken off at the time of the invasion of Czechoslovakia.

It is reported that this decision by the Wiesbaden conference is to be debated in detail by the new confederation executive.

The rough notes that occasionally sounded at Wiesbaden, tones of voice that are common enough on site, did not hide the fact that a majority of delegates agreed with their new general secretary on all important issues.

Rudolf Sperner is prepared logically to pursue the cooperation with the employers commenced by his predecessor, Georg Leber. Partnership does not preclude tough lobbying and there can be no doubt, on the other hand, that IG Bau will not shun trade disputes should the need arise.

So far, admittedly, building workers have not done badly as a result of the soft approach, but despite the success that has been achieved complete satisfaction is not yet in sight. IG Bau hopes to bring it about over the next three years.

The building workers' approach is not an easy one and not until afterwards will it be clear whether or not partnership pays better than industrial struggle.

*Hans Falkenberg*

(NEUE RUHR ZEITUNG, 12 June 1969)

# *Building workers bell handed on*

In 1910 the chairman of the German Building Workers' Association bought a small chairman's bell with his own money. It was to symbolise a fresh start. The building workers had just ended an expensive eight-week lockout that had bled the organisation to its last.

The bell survived the trials of the times and in 1957 was given to Georg Leber as he set about launching a new era in trade union policies. At the Wiesbaden conference of IG Bau, the building workers' union, Georg Leber officially resigned as general secretary, an appointment in which he had last been confirmed at the 1966 Bremen conference.

He gave the bell to the man he recommended to delegates as his successor: Rudolf Sperner, who was elected by an overshelming majority too. The bell, Herr Leber commented, is to call to order but also to sound the alarm should democracy in this country be endangered again.

Georg Leber's understanding of democracy is exactly as it should be. He sees it as the maintenance of freedom – one's own and that of others. It is principally motivated by the determination to re-

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spect the rights of others and to seek to balance interests by way of compromise.

From this basis, on which Georg Leber has not only talked but also acted, he has become a politician whose achievements may perhaps not appear in their true light until examined by future historians. In Rudolf Sperner he has found an intelligent successor.

During the two and a half years in which Sperner has stood in for Leber, who, since December 1966 has been Minister of Transport in Bonn, he has emerge from the shadow of his predecessor and shown personality of his own. He has promised to continue Georg Leber's policies with the latest means.

Observers of the progress of this trade union who have from the start taken an objective, benevolent, encouraging but critical view of IG Bau, will see continuity in this change and with it the prospect of freedom in an evolutionary process of development. (Handelsblatt, 10 June 1969)

## LITERATURE

# Writers establish association

"Writers have power if they united and form a strong association." With these optimistic words Dieter Lattmann launched the Association of Federal Republic Writers, founded in Cologne on his initiative.

Thus, for the first time in twenty-five years authors, translators, journalists and critics have a central organisation to represent their rights and interests. At the last annual general meeting, delegates of the thirteen regional writers' associations decided unanimously in favour of founding a central union.

At the same time it was decided to disband the former, nomially national organisation

At the same time it was decided to disband the former, nominally national organisation individuality and have not been interested in solidarity even with less talented colleagues.

It seems that the time is past when authors viewed the well organised, active writers' associations in other countries with a certain amount of shame. The founders of the Association of Federal Republic Writers realise that it is not



Heinrich Böll

enough to replace an old organisation by a new one. Poets need a lobby in Bonn if they do not went to meet a "palaeontological end" – as the "dinosaurs of the cybernetic era."

Lattmann appealed for moderation and objectivity: "No solemn ceremony and no chamber music." He also asked the literary elite to show tolerance towards the average writer and to display human consideration.

"Discussing a writers' association means talking about very practical, very political matters. It means talking about the things which affect all authors and for this reason matters on which there is likely to be disagreement should not be discussed for the time being. Nothing will be achieved unless those involved are determined to be objective."

The founding dommittee with Dieter Lattmann as chief spokesman and Helmut M. Braem, Thaddäus Troll, Ingeborg Dre-

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witz and Eberhard Horst as deputies has already formulated a comprehensive programme.

Their demands include a social enquiry into the position of writers in the Federal Republic, suitable provisions for old-age pensions through a one-per-cent supplementary copyright fee on all unprotected works, the abolition of Paragraph 46 of the Copyright Law which states that all contributions to school textbooks should be unpaid, intervention against the Stockholm Protocol and in favour of cultural development aid at the expense of authors, and fees for lending copyright works by public libraries, as in Sweden where an author receives approximately five Pfennigs each time a book is borrowed.

In 1968 the Swedish writers' association received 34 million kronor from public libraries. At present negotiations are underway for concluding an agreement between authors and libraries, with the support of the Swedish government.

Despite the fact that many government officials have scant regard for contemporary Federal Republic authors, Lattmann concluded his speech with some critical, but nevertheless positive, comments about the state.

"The government of this country has not taken very much interest in us. Having been in existence a mere twenty years, it is in need of reform and many of the original hopes have not been fulfilled. But there has never been a more liberal German state – and despite everything it is worth living and working here."

Although Lattmann believes in the effectiveness of "language as a weapon," the new association is clearly trade union-orientated. "But as authors are regarded as free-lance operators in this country – and not only by the tax offices – it is not easy for them to join a trade union. Discussions will reveal what kind of association with the Confederation of Federal Republic Trade Unions (DGB) would be possible.

"Under the caption 'trade union' all sorts of efforts are now being made and not all of them seem to be rationally motivated. At present it is much more important for the Writers' Association to tackle its responsibilities like a trade union rather than calling itself a trade union."

In fact, preliminary probings indicate that the DGB is not very keen to admit writers, as a united group, into its ranks. For example, a little while ago the printing workers' union (IG Druck), which Günther Grass explicitly recommended as the nearest refuge, told a regional writers' organisation that there could scarcely be any question of establishing another professional association, for instance for writers.

Publishing production staff have encountered similar reserve on the part of other industrial unions. Evidently, trade union officials are afraid that ponderous intellectuals might stir up unrest.

Dieter Lattmann does not deny these difficulties and is therefore anxious to give the association an image so as to initiate activities. Then later it might be possible to form a trade union for all free-lance artists and writers. Lattmann regards the fact that the much-quoted internal opposition centred round Zwerenz and Bingel is to refrain from founding a rival organisation for the time being as a ray of hope.

One of the association's main aims is to improve the economic situation of authors. Heinrich Böll agreed to investigate this point. What is the social position of writers who up to now have been happy to play the "refined idiot" but have gradually come to be regarded as "fossils worthy of museum space" in the midst of our society.

It is high time that writers delegated modesty to their "opposite numbers." for "neither the state nor society will take the slightest notice of a minority which has failed to unite, which is satisfied with receiving the occasional laurel wreath."

Anyone who ignores social policy, is not a political factor. In any case the reputation which Federal Republic writers have established bears no relation to copyright fees. Böll's first demand to the new association, which many prominent authors have joined spontaneously, concerns reviewing the whole copyright system.

Special points for consideration include the so-called irrevocable regulation, by means of which radio companies blatantly cheat authors of repeat fees, and royalties for paperbacks. At present these royalties amount to five or six – or at best eight – Pfennings per volume. A translator receives no royalties on sales, or perhaps a single Pfennig if he has reached a favourable agreement with the publisher.

Dieter Lattmann

(Photos: [illegible])

The writer's share of secondary rights is similarly negligible. Tax offices treat authors no differently from other entrepreneurs. Whether or not an author is allowed taxation relief for his study is also left to the discretion of the local tax office.

But these entrapreneurs are probably the only one whose prices are dictated by customers. They cannot even go on strike. For economic reasons 99 per cent of writers could not keep up a strike for more than two months.

Günter Grass praised Böll's speech as "the secularisation of a very scared profession," in which he drew attention to the realities of creative *writing* within the context of society.

*Werner Schulze-Reimpell*

(DIE WELT, 10 June 1969)

## Theatre in the department store

In the search for new ways of attracting theatre audiences, an association of young theatre and film people in Bonn has come to an arrangement with the management of a large department store. From June onwards there will be a theatre with 99 seats and auxiliary facilities within the store.

The new *Theater Zentral*, which will stage boulevard drama as well as classical and experimental plays, is to open on 21 June with Strindberg's *Miss Julie*. The department store is providing all facilities free of charge.

(DIE WELT, 5 June 1969)

## Grimm price awarded to Jean Fourquet

The Brothers Grimm Prize, awarded biannually by Marburg University, has been won this year by the French professor, Dr Jean Philipp Fourquet who is the director of the Germanic Institute at Paris University.

The prize, which is worth 10,000 Marks, will be presented at a ceremony to mark the 442nd anniversary of the founding of Marburg University. A commission chaired by Professor Ernst Schütte, the Hesse education minister, is responsible for awarding the prize.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 5 June 1969)

## Brandt on FO's cultural activities

No sensational results but a number of tangible successes is the record of this country's cultural policy abroad, according to Federal Minister of Foreign Affairs Willy Brandt.

He was commenting on the bi-annual report of the Foreign Office's cultural affairs department.

Herr Brandt said that within the framework of the government's Eastern policy it was especially significant that ties that have existed for hundreds of years with countries now in the communist bloc have been re-established.

The Foreign Office report states that one third of its total budget, 229 million Marks, was spent on cultural activities. About 77,000 persons from abroad attended courses at 117 cultural and Goethe institues. Scholarships were granted to 2,066 foreign students.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 20 May 1969)





## DRAMA

# Experimental theatre at Frankfurt festival

Packed auditoriums, knots of people clamouring at the door, rejoicing of those who just managed to get in – these were the external signs of a swinging *Experimenta 3* in Frankfurt. No previous theatre festival seemed to have the magnetic force of this one.

For ten days Frankfurt presents experimental theatre, and whatever is thought of the artistic value of most of the plays presented, the interest the festival has awakened in the theatre is a good sign. The throng consists mostly of young people. They are hoping to come away with deep impressions, but they are also prepared for disappointments, such as they experienced in the three nights of films.

They are a spontaneous, loud public whose reactions are not always prudent. Their clothes are colourful, and from their beards and hairstyles it is apparent where the majority stand – on the side of the Extra-Parliamentary Opposition (APO). They consider themselves to be politically progressive, and as an audience one cannot help wondering if they are capable of appreciating the more formal standards of modern art.

This was an *Experimenta* for the public. More exactly, it was an *Experimenta* which tried to discover the limits of the demands that can be made on the public. For all their disparity, the Beuys, Brocks, Rühms and Orianos of the festival had one thing in common, namely, material. They present the imperfect with the challenge, "Finish it. See whether and how our ideas can take root and grow in yourselves."

Behind this approach lies an aesthetic principle awaiting the "mature spectator," a phrase that seems to be on everybody's lips. It is a principle, however, that gives the producer (I deliberately avoid the word "artist") a non-committal range of thought and feeling that is indefinable and at times bordering on the absurd – unless he keeps a tight hold over himself.

Critics have attempted to describe the fine distinctions between these writers and the purpose behind their art. *Experimenta 3* is obviously a festival which seeks to discover the spectator less as a co-player than as an intellectual partner.

Involuntarily, the festival also suggests that theatre is far behind other modern art forms in which this conception of the public has asserted itself, reducing this public, however, to a small group. Two examples, among many others, to illustrate this, can be mentioned.

Friedrich Herzfeld, writing on atonal music as far back as 1954, declared in *Musica nova*, "There has been talk of a circumventive aestheticism, of a style of implication. Not everything, only the essentials are stated so that the listener or the viewer must round off the whole himself."

This also might have been said by Jean-Luc Godard and many of his followers. For ten years he has been making films consisting of fragmentary scenes which the viewer connects up in his own mind and weaves a pattern of thought, allowing his imagination free rein. This is why dogged traditionalists, who prefer the finished product, regard Godard's films as unripe material.

Clearly, in the theatre authors and spectators must first accustom themselves to such subjective audience freedom. *Experimenta 3* helped to illuminate various aspects of this process, but perhaps too little was done to clarify the authors' intentions. In the case of Beuys, Brock and *Futur-Realta* references could have been made in the theatre to the function and purpose of the events taking place on the stage. This presumes of course an audience that is willing or anxious to be instructed.

It is natural to ask: Why all this? Theatre of the finished product was quite good at times, and difficult enough too, wasn't it?

Adherence to definite "artistic values" in a rapidly changing world is reactionary and inappropriate if these values are an excuse for the lack of courage to probe ahead. This is simply resignation.

Another point is that it is essential that the individual imagnation should be again and again inflamed, unless we are to become mere functional creatures between machines and in the crowded streets of our cities.

Paricipation in dramatic activities is one of the best means of resisting these corroding influences. Direct participation of the audience, repeatedly attempted by Paul Pörtner, proved to be unfeasible, but theatre has never abandoned the idea of indirect involvement of the spectator in the simulated happenings on the stage.

Even indirect participation is quite a challenge because a high degree of inventiveness is required. Associations must be awakened, unfamiliar channels of thought explored, self-knowledge cultivated.

Getting the people to participate is difficult. This was embarrassingly obvious one evening in the Theater am Turm when the stage was made available to the public. The results of this experiment were meagre indeed.

Ideologists were quick to twist the significance of this sad hour. It was suggested that the *Akademie der darstellenden Künste* had lured the audience – at least, the APO people – into a trap by setting up a musty bourgeois background scene.

This is really the crux of the matter. Is it necessary to destroy the world in order to change it?

### New York performers

In its own way the Bread and Puppet Theatre from New York attempted to establish a bond with the audience. The group wants to communicate, to banish the barrier of footlights from the viewer's consciousness.

They succeeded in doing this, probably because this group gives an insight into the origins and growth of its stagecraft. The spectator watches while the characters are transformed, are dressed, become puppets. Fragments of newspapers are seen on the knobby animal masks.

The play here is entwined only with fairy tale and legend and the vision of a socialist Christendom. Word and dialogue flow naturally, as if improvised throughout.

In the tradition of the Commedia dell'Arte, theatre develops of itself, without a literary foundation. But it is fascinating, and provocative too because it is startlingly direct.

*Experimenta 3* endeavoured to present many examples of this genre, with partial success. The organisers were aware of the difficulties involved and decided when planning their programme that the attempt, the experiment, must at all times be placed before perfection in what form ever.

Thus seen, it is a peculiar coincidence that the *Experimenta*, that admitted many people free of charge for want of seating accommodation, is to be followed by a *Woche des Spielens*. This has been organised for advertising purposes, however.

*Rainer Hartmann*

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 10 June 1969)



A scene from 'A Cry of the People for Meat' presented by the Bread and Puppet Theatre from New York (Photos: Abisag Tüllmann/Inge Werth)

The Tenjo Sajiki Theatre from Tokyo took part in the 'Experimenta' festival in Frankfurt. One of the theatre pieces they presented was 'Inugami'.

## Theatre managers want theatre agencies to remain

The association of theatre managers is urging the retention of private theatre agencies, opposing the Bundestag resolutions on the Labour Promotion Bill.

In a statement issued in Frankfurt, the association said that legislation now being considered by the Bundestag would mean that the Federal Agency for Labour Exchanges and Unemployment Insurance in Nuremberg could allow private individuals to act as agents only in exceptional cases.

The association added that the intention seems to be to allow commercial theatre agencies to die out and make no new arrangements. This would place an "irresponsible obstacle in the way of the theatre," the statement concluded.

In the opinion of the association, the central labour office (ZAV) set up by the Federal Agency in Frankfurt is "in its organisation and staff incapable of arranging adequate agency facilities for theatres in this country."

Eugen Schöndienst, the association's director in Cologne, told journalists that the Bill adopted by the Bundestag in its present form conflicts with the Federal Republic's international commitments. At present, this country has five private theatre agencies. (DIE WELT, 11 June 1969)

## ■ EDUCATION

# Health Ministry's sex instruction book

In the field of sex education for young and old the Federal Republic is amongst the avantgarde. According to the Federal Minister of Health, this country is the first to introduce sex education as a separate subject on the school curriculum and to bring out a book on sex education for all the Federal states, thus ignoring instances of federalistic crankiness.

The first edition of the hard-back book with 48 printed and illustrated pages will run to 100,000 copies. This new textbook will also be freely available in bookshops in the immediate future.

The 24 printed sides and thirteen pages of large-scale, four-colour illustrations describe aspects of sexual relations. Less than a generation ago, printing such a book would have been unthinkable.

In Bonn, Minister of Health Käte Strobel invited correspondents of Federal Republic and foreign newspapers resident in the city and also the editors of children's newspapers in the Bonn-Bad Godesberg area to an informatory discussion.

Käte Strobel prefaced her remarks by saying that the "sex atlas" had been published in time for it to be avallabe for the beginning of the new school-year in August. She said the atlas simply dealt with the biology of sex; it did not poach on the preserves of state education ministers or of parents.

The book would be a great help to teachers in planning sex education lessons and was also designed to protect teachers from external attacks because of the compulsory nature of sex education. The Health Minister went on to say that according to a recent public opinion poll 83 per cent of those questioned felt that sex education at school was essential.

A decision reached by the Education Ministers' Conference, which preceded publication of the sex atlas, states that all school-girls and -boys should acquire accurate knowledge of human sexuality whilst at school.

They should be able to understand sexual processes, to express themselves suitably on sexual matters and to form an opinion on difficult or unusual sexual manifestations. It is intended that sex education at school should begin when pupils are fourteen years old. But before the end of the first school-year all children should know the difference between the sexes and the facts of motherhood.

The educational aim is not simply to inform pupils of adult sexual problems and the behaviour of the sexes towards one another, but also to impart knowledge of the social and legal bases of sexual and family life, such as engagement, marriage, the family, parental rights and duties, and the rights of legitimate and illegitimate children.

Young people are also to be taught about the ethical side of human sexuality: legal regulations for the protection of minors, and sexual crimes such as prostitution, homosexuality, rape, abortion and match-making.

Not all the subjects taught at schools will contribute towards sex education; biology departments will bear the brunt of the teaching. It is envisaged that divinity lessons will deal with the theological attitude to sexuality and the resulting demands made of man.

Special courses are to be held to help teachers cope with sex education lessons and libraries provided for teachers will be supplied with suitable literature on the subject.

With the support of the Health Ministry, the Federal Bureau for Health Education sponsored the sex atlas, which is being published by a firm in Opladen. A committee of experts set up by the Education Minister's Conference checked the suitability of the book before publication.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 11 June 1969)

## English lessons using Beatles' songs as texts

For many young people the Beatles and their songs are the greatest. A teacher in Cologne is using Beatles records in his English lessons. At the *Mittlere Knabenschule* (intermediate boys' school) in Cologne, beat music frequently wafts through the classrooms and, as the teacher insists, this is an integral part of his English lessons.

For the youngest English pupils (12-year-olds) he chooses Beatles records with texts that are easy to translate, whilst the older children (from 14 onwards) are also interested in the more difficult texts.

But the 14- to 16-year-olds do not only improve their knowledge of English with the aid of these pop records; they also try to discover why the Beatles wrote these particular texts and what they wanted to communicate. In Cologne, lyrics from Liverpool have replaced Shakespeare.

The Cologne teacher defends his unusual methods with a convincing argument. Pupils find it much more fun learning English with the aid of Beatles records than through the conventional stories in traditional textbooks.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 11 June 1969)

## Literary studies at universities need to be reorganised

Professor Wolfgang Iser, head of the literary studies department at Constance University, has suggested that literary courses should be reorganised. Professor Iser recommends that literary studies should be split into two, largely independent branches: one course should concentrate on literary research and the other should be specifically orientated towards the teaching profession. The two branches could then develop their own points of emphasis.

Professor Iser's suggestion for reorganising linguistic and literary studies represents a contribution towards the discussion about teaching German at senior schools. In accordance with the view that literature is "an expression of the national character" – a definition formulated after the First World War – teaching literature at school has up to now been part of the relevant foreign language lessons.

Now, Professor Iser is suggesting that linguistic and literary classes should be differentiated and entrusted to different teachers. The language teacher would be mainly responsible for actual language teaching and by making use of all the technical aids could intensify foreign language courses considerably.

The literature teacher could then consider his material not simply in the context of a particular country, but could look beyond the national framework and compare the literary manifestations of several countries.

Iser's definition of literary studies as "the study of all kinds of texts" pinpoints the task of future literature teachers. It will no longer be enough for teachers to concentrate on educative works and to discuss literary masterpieces. In future, they must analyse and consider the purpose of as many qualitatively different text as possible – the scope ranges from trivial pieces to internationally respected works, from political speeches to newspaper reports. According to this theory, literature lessons should above all make text comprehensible and thus force pupils to develop their own critical attitudes.

The training of prospective teachers recommended by Professor Iser takes into account these practical tasks. Literary studies should in future concentrate on the following aspects: describing literary works (from classical rhetoric to New Criticism), analysing structure and form, interpreting the author's intentions, poetic and literary history. In this context "literature" covers all text including so-called expository text.

Iser also proposes that pedagogic exercises should form part of the literature course; this would help to bridge the gap between academic knowledge and practical experience in schools, and would also amount to a foretaste of practical teaching experience so that the subsequent trainee period could be shortened.

After taking his final examinations the future literature teacher should not be expected to possess encyclopaedic knowledge. However, he must be capable of investigating qualitatively varied texts, recognising their intentions and hence initiating "non-ideological German teaching." Literature lessons must primarily develop the pupil's critical abilities and self-expression and, to quote Iser, help him to fulfill his "function within the general educational process."

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 6 June 1969)





## ■ OCEANOGRAPHY

# Large allocations for marine research

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ESSENTIAL

*Industriekurier*

A new major research programme has been launched: the Federal Republic Oceanography Commission under the chairmanship of Gerhard Stoltenberg, Minister of Scientific Research, has produced a comprehensive programme for marine research.

On the basis of this programme, it is estimated that 500 million Marks will be spent on marine research and development between 1969 and 1973. More than 300 million Marks will be provided from Federal funds. The four coastal states – Lower Saxony, Schleswig-Holstein, Hamburg and Bremen – will also provide contributions.

Financial assistance will also be forthcoming from the Federal Research Association and from industry, which is paying more and more attention to marine technology and hopes to open up new markets or sources of raw materials in this way.

It should be stated straight away that this 500 million Marks is not an excessive sum. Quite apart from the fact that this is far less that the USA, the Soviet Union and even France spend in this field, it is worth recalling the recent, unsuccessful gas drilling undertaken by the Federal Republic North Sea Consortium. More than 100 million Marks were sunk into the sea – and this was for one project.

On the other hand, money alone is not enough. The real bottleneck is likely to occur in the personnel field. The shortage of qualified marine researchers really does pose a serious problem. By 1972 the number of marine researchers in this country is to be doubled.

It will not be nearly so difficult for the Federal Republic to catch up with the current American advance in marine research compared with atomic research, electronic data processing or space technology, which are also classes as major areas of research.

Marine research and technology is also in its infancy in the USA, but the problems are being tackled with greater determination both by the government, which feels that military interests are also at stake, and by industry.

Germans are certainly not newcomers as regards basic oceanographic research; they can be proud of their achivements, but up to now they have mainly concentrated on coastal regions. In future, horizons are to be widened. And industry will play an increasingly important role in marine research alongside the scientific institutes in Kiel and Hamburg.

Of course, some people may suspect that the government is simply filling a new watering-can in order to provide a border spray of subsidies for projects which may be very unlikely to achieve positive success. Some taxpayers will ask themselves what is the point of investigating the oceans and "fumbling around" on the seabed.

Firstly, it should be pointed out to the critics that a few hundred million Marks over a four-year period is not exactly an extravagant investment in the future. This is an even more valid point when one considers that the greater part of the earth's surface, seven-tenths in fact, consists of sea.

On the other hand, there has been talk of the future development of the seabed – for the time being there is no room for spectacular visions of underwater cities.

The Federal Republic Oceanography Commission is much more concerned with acute practical problems in its programme: exploiting mineral deposits, especially considering the anticipated shortage of certain metals and hence the higher prices. The interaction of the sea and the earth's atmosphere will also be investigated, with special reference to coastal preservation.

Methods of preventing and dealing with contamination of the sea will also be researched. Everyone remembers the dreadful oil slicks which have contaminated the British coast. And last but not least, the programme mentions the exploitation of food reserves in the sea. This is particularly important in view of food shortages in developing countries.

So, this country's marine researchers have set themselves specific and also limited tasks. But, as a matter of principle, their radius of action is not be restricted. Merely carrying out research off the Federal Republic coast would not be a particularly attractive proposition especially as the North and Baltic Seas probably do not contain any exciting treasures.

*International cooperation is essential* simply in view of the legal problems which arise when several countries want to undertake the same research projects. In any case, broadly-based, intensive cooperation with foreign partners, at least within the Common Market, is necessary. Marine research is too new, too risky (though full of opportunities) and too expensive for every individual country to sail under its national flag.

(Industriekurier, 7 June 1969)

## Bonn-Washington sun probe agreement

Gerhard Stoltenberg, Minister of Scientific Research, and Dr Thomas Paine, director of the American space authority – NASA – have signed two agreements in Bonn on joint space research projects. These Federal Republic-American projects involve the construction of a "Helios" sun probe and an aeronomical satellite.

As part of the Helios programme two sun probes will be launched in 1974/75 and will go nearer to the sun than any previous probes, to within fifty million kilometres. The probes will carry out ten scientific experiments and will investigate the solar wind, magnetic and electrical fields, cosmic radation and cosmic dust. They should provide new information about reactions on the sun and the relations between the sun and the earth.

According to the agreement between NASA and the Federal Republic, the probes will be built in this country and launched by Atlas-Centaur rockets approximately one year apart. Seven of the ten scientific experiments will be set up by Federal Republic scientists.

Over a five-year period, this country will provide 230 million Marks for the Helios project and the Americans will contribute 120 million Marks. Stoltenberg told press representatives that the Helios project would involve scientists and space technologists in the most up-to-date problems.

The aerological satellite is to research into the upper ionosphere. The satellite will cost the Federal Republic forty million Marks and will be constructed in this country. (Hannoversche Presse, 11 June 1969)

## Mass Hamburg tests to discover if fever can prevent cancer

After the summer holidays several hundred thousand Hamburgers are to be asked to take part in a major, long-term experiment which doctors and scientists hope will clarify whether or not fever can prevent cancer. The medical journal *Euromed* reported that this Hamburg project will be carried out on an even more gigantic scale than the famous American experiment to prevent heart attacks.

Hamburg's Health Senator, Seeler, and Professor Fromm, president of the Federal doctors' association, will be in charge of the "Hamburg Study on Cancer Prevention." "I am convinced," said Professor Fromm, "that the Hamburg study can make a valuable contribution to cancer prevention. There is a whole series of questions which cannot be satisfactorily answered in the laboratory alone: We need the cooperation of broad sections of the public."

Health Senator Seeler commented, "This kind of investigation could provide completely new information on the origins and prevention of this twentieth century scourge."

This study was investigated by the newspaper *Hamburger Abendblatt* after Dr Gerhard Schulz, a Hamburg doctor, began to wonder on the basis of his own investigations and observation of patients whether fever could prevent cancer. Dr Schulz has spent years investigating cancer and his assumption aroused lively discussion amongst internationally famous doctors and scientists, because it is a distinct possibility that fever destroys cancer cells in the body and protects a healthy person from malicious growths for about five years.

If the hopes of cancer researchers are confirmed, then it might be possible to nobody should be excluded. One city must accept this task on behalf of the world." the world are trying to fathom. But, in the opinion of researchers, Dr Schulz's query can only be answered if a large number of people are prepared to cooperate and report on their health over several years.

The *Hamburger Abendblatt* commented: "It is becoming increasingly obvious that the cancer problem which concerns us all, can only be solved through major community efforts from which nobody should be excluded. One city must accept this task on behalf of the world."

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 10 June 1969)

## Catfish – a sea relic from the morning of time

Some of the most interesting booty brought back by the Federal Republic fisheries research vessel *Walther Herwig* from its South African expedition last year were the numerous species of catfish, one of the earlist forms of organic life. Viktor Benno Meyer-Rochow recently reported on this primeval species in the magazine *Natur und Museum*.

These cat-fish or chimaera, of which there used to be large numbers centuries ago, are cartilaginous fish and are thus closely related to sharks. The oldest fossils of cat-fish come from North Devon and are more than 300 million years old.

At that time were no insects or birds on the earth and even sauria (lizard-like reptiles) had not yet appeared, not to mention mammals. Cat-fish were probably most common 200 million years later in the Cretaceous Period just when the first flowering plants and butterflies began to appear.

Only 25 species of this genus have survived the intervening centuries, mostly at very great depths where the environmental conditions have probably not altered significantly. Nevertheless, these few species belong to three different families: the short-nosed, the long-nosed and the elephant-nosed. Last year the *Walther Herwig* managed to acquire examples of all three.

Despite their long succession of ancestors, present-day cat-fish are very like their prehistoric forefathers, and thus provide zoologists with the possibility of studying "living fossils."

These creatures have no vertebral structure and no ribs but the old *chorda dorsalis* which later developed into the spinal column. Their skin is still "naked," that is to say the scales typical of ossiferous fish do not occur. A characteristic exemple of short-nosed cat-fish, the sea-rat (so called because of its long, thin tail) looks life a survivor of a long-forgotten era and is only slightly reminiscent of a fish.

However, the *Walther Herwig* was particularly lucky as far as the elephant-nosed family, or elephantine fish, were concerned. It caught thirty at one haul which suggests that these fish, which are about four to five feet long, live in large shoals.

These fish take their name from their trunk-like snouts. In addition, they are the only chimaera which have some economic importance because the flesh is regarded as a deliacy. Whereas sea-rats are also found off the coast of Europe and East Asia, elephantine fish are restricted to the Southern hemisphere.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 11 June 1969)

## FINANCE

# All calm on the Mark revaluation front

### NO FURTHER ACTION LIKELY UNTIL AUTUMN

On the last day of his visit to Washington, Economic Affairs Minister Karl Schiller emphatically denied reports in London newspapers of a conversation he had had with journalists. The London *Times* wrote: "It is obvious that Herr Schiller regards revaluation of the Mark after the September elections as unavoidable, no matter which party wins the election."

For reasons of national or party politics, Schiller *accepted the Cabinet decision of 9 May* not to revalue. It would have been tantamount to political suicide if, in Washington of all places, he had expressed to British journalists exactly contrary views to those which, as a member of the present Federal government, he is bound to support.

Will it be possible to get over the present monetary crisis without altering parities? The answer to this question clearly does not depend on events in the Federal Republic alone.

The Federal government was afraid that even during the week preceding the first round of the French presidential election money would again start to flow into the Federal Republic. But everything remained calm. Since then it has been regarded as highly unlikely that the second electoral round will upset the "sea of calm," which the international currency situation presents at the moment.

The next *critical* period is likely to occur after the Bundestag elections. A victory for the Christian Democratic and Christian Social Unions (CDU/CSU) would probably not encourage anyone abroad to speculate or take precautions against revaluation of the Mark immediately after the elections.

Even though other countries may not believe the Bonn spokesman's that the decision not to revalue would be valid "for eternity," no one will assume that immediately after the elections a CDU/CSU government would consider it right to introduce a measure which it condemned prior to the elections.

With regard to the exchange rate of the Mark, a Social Democratic Party (SPD) victory would probably arouse varied feelings abroad. People would wonder whether Schiller would get the go-ahead from his party and thus be able to do what he felt was right before 9 May, namely revalue. The uncertainty would very likely affect the money markets.

Nonetheless, the transfer of a few thousand million Marks worth of credit from one country to another does not necessarily mean that exchange rates must be modified, as past experience indicates.

Until the autumn and directly after the elections no circumstances are likely to arise which could put pressure on the Federal government. The disturbance in international balance, the cause of past currency crises, might even lose some of its intensity and make life easier for the current and the next Federal government.

There is in fact a slight chance that during the second half of this year the situation will calm down somewhat in the USA, because inflation is being brought under control there. Britain is already in the process of creating a moderate economic climate.

The Federal Republic exports would not increase at the rate which has caused so much anxiety during recent months. In fact, pessimists are already anticipating reduced export figures. And the Japanese spokesman who recently praised the country's decision against revaluation "because we will soon push you into the background on all markets anyway", is being taken more seriously as a messenger of a trade disaster than he would have been a year ago.

If such gloomy prophecies came true and were accompanied by slight weakening of the economy in the US and Britain, then any Federal government would be able postpone revaluation for some time or even indefinitely. But if unforeseeable events which night disturb the present currency calm occur in the autumn, then politicians' nerves and staying power will once again be under strain. On the basis of last May's experiences, one can conclude that they would not give way to any pressure, whatever form this pressure might take.

And in the meantime what will happen on the price front? The rational supporters of revaluation never claimed that it would relieve this country of all price increases. However, they did say that the Bundesbank and the government would have an easier time keeping prices under control.

This will indeed be more difficult now. But since the inevitable rise in the price of industrial goods will be accompanied by more moderate increases in rents and agricultural products, cautious observers estimate that the cost of living will only go up by a further two-and-a-half to three per cent before the end of this year.

But will the dams hold? As far as one can see, they will hold until the autumn or possibly longer. But Bonn should not allow the relative calm to slip by unexploited. On every possible occasion the government must campaign for the idea of harmonising economic policy, *at least* in Europe. This long-term aim could prevent the campaign *for and* against revaluation from *assuming* the character of a crusade.

(DIE WELT, 6 June 1969)

# Schiller predicts reforms in world monetary system

After his return from the USA, Economic Affairs Minister Karl Schiller said that he expected the international monetary system to be reformed. Speaking to journalists at Cologne airport, he said he had encountered an extraordinary degree of determination on this point.

The first stage in the efforts to introduce reforms will be the meeting of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in September when the special drawing rights of member nations will be discussed.

Professor Schiller said that he was very satisfied with his talks in the USA. He had been impressed by the energy with which the American government is tackling the problem of inflation.

A member of Schiller's delegation said that the complex of off-setting American foreign exchange costs had only been dealt with in general terms. The Federal Cabinet it to consider this question at on of its next sessions. It is rumoured that the American delegation to the off-set negotiations was not satisfied with this country's offer to pay eighty per cent of the 3,600 million Marks demanded by the U.S.

Professor Schiller said that he had had cordial discussions with Finance Minister David Kennedy, Trade Minister Maurice Stans and other economic advisers of President Nixon during his stay in Washington. None of the Americans he conferred with had been critical of the Federal government's decision not to revalue the Mark. This decision was accepted, and the present situation and likely future developments had been discussed from this starting-point.

Schiller confirmed that the Nixon administration was very anxious that the new IMF special drawing rights (which have yet to be settled) should be activated as soon as possible. But the volume of funds avail able was not discussed.

For the time being the Federal Republic must wait and see how the currency situation develpops, as a great deal of international liquidity has accumulated in this country at present. It is, therefore, too early for the Federal Republic to plead for high or low drawing rights.

Schiller said that continued variation of exchange rates would represent a very serious problem for the Common Market. The current system for supporting agriculture would be considerably upset by fluctuating parities.

(Hannoversche Presse, 6 June 1969)

# More money for developing countries corporation

The Federal Republic Corporation for Developing Countries will be able to embark on 1970 with a considerably higher budget than has been available this year. The increased budget of eleven million Marks for the increasing number of projects undertaken in developing countries was acquired after tough negotiations with the Finance Ministry.

In addition the foundation will receive a contribution of 3,5 million Marks for special responsibilities. This means that the foundation should be able to fulfill its role as part of the Federal Republic technical aid programme with enough staff to tackle the increased number of projects.

It is true that no significant changes are anticipated during the next phase of the foundation's work. But just recently certain complementary aspects of its work have become more obvious. For example, cooperation with the UN subsidiary organisations is becoming increasingly important.

As far as international seminars are concerned, the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAD) still takes the lead. This corresponds to the current conception of Federal Republic aid policy which stresses agricultural problems.

But a distinct change of emphasis is taking place in favour of economic and social development in the Third World. This is supported by vital aspects of aid such as industrial training as the key to industrialisation and building up effective administrative apparatus.

Of course the time has past when administrative experts from the United Arab Republic were taught about German experience of government by workers' councils in Berlin. Nonetheless, these contacts have not been completely severed despite the changed political circumstances. At present 32 Ethiopian provincial governors are working in Bavarian state departments.

At the moment, Federal Republic administrative systems are particularly admired by Brazilian officials. So far the foundation has helped to train four hundred Brazilian civil servants. And a further two hundred Brazilians will be trained in the Federal Republic this year.

The desire of South American governments to familiarise prospective taxation and financial officials with the methods employed in this country indicates the considerable gap which developing countries have to make up in this field.

The tendency to like the foundation's work more closely to the international organisations could have a side-effect, which Bonn at least feels would be desirable. The conference papers drawn up by international seminars are distributed throughout the world as UN documents. The multilateral commitment of the Federal Republic could be effectively underlined in this way.

It is evident that this argument does not ignore foreign policy implications. Seminars due to take place in the immediate future, which are to be organised in conjunction with FAD, may for the first time be attended by East European representatives.

Anyone who remembers the early days of the Federal Republic Foundation for Developing Countries and its development of all kinds of activities, will not be surprised that once again new tasks are to be tackled. For example, the president of the organisation, SPD Bundestag member Georg Kahn-Ackermann, has said that it would be worthwhile for the foundation to establish an academy for senior experts and officials from developing nations. The Federal Republic would be the first country to take the initiative in this field.

But already existant administrative difficulties will mean that a good deal of water will go under the bridge before foreign diplomats return to their homelands with an appropriate certificate, thus advertising the high quality of Federal Republic training.

(Handelsblatt, 10 June 1969)





## BUSINESS

# The changing face of advertising techniques

Munich was the venue for the jubilee congress of the Central Committee of Advertising Agencies (ZAW), and 2,600 delegates turned up. Five exhibitions of placards, prospectuses, outdoor advertisments and industrial films give a survey of advertising today in all its manifold forms.

The Bavarian branch of the industry's association again organised a competition similar to the one that was held six years ago. Of the 300 entries eighteen won silver medals and 31 bronze. No entry won gold. The seven-member jury discovered no entry that would have merited this award.

Style has changed in advertising. Where are the attractive, seductive girls, for example, and all the gentle, many-sided sex symbols which were once generally regarded as the hidden persuaders, the incentives, the allurements, to buy?

True, on entering the exhibition hall one is confronted by a pretty girl in a large-mesh miniskirt which is folded in as many parts as the advertising company produces ores and steel. But the girl is alone on the museum's floor, well covered with exhibits.

Girls in the latest advertisement are shown in fragmentary form — here the gentle slant of an eye, the suggestion of lips; there the curve of a slender neck or the dip of a young firm back, hung (for example) with watches and other products. And where are the children?

Where are they, the cuddly ones who until very recently were giving so many of our daily desires the halo of innocence that made buying them seem irresistible? What wind has blown them away, along with the cats and dogs that also seemed to be well established as meek and gentle persuaders of the buying art?

Six years ago, motifs of this kind were found on every one of the partition walls on the floor of the museum. Instead of the ever-young girls, more men are seen now. Not only young men but serious-looking men in the mature years of their professional life. Also elderly men who have a calming reassuring effect.

Family scenes are lively but restrained. Too much emotional emphasis is avoided. Family members seem for the most part to be engaged in deep conversation.

Objects too advertise themselves. Many individual objects are seen on large posters, such as a fruit, a motor car, a engine part.

The single object is the eye-catcher. The captions often consist of personal questions or provocative statements that hit people directly.

One advertisement in the new campaign for West Berlin, for example, reads "Many people don't like us." Or, "Avoid Berlin if you don't want your son to be cleverer than you." Or, "You don't have to arrive in a Rolls Royce when you deal with us."



Examples of the new style in layout and copy writing in current advertising campaigns. Cigarettes and drink — whisky — are big sources of advertising income.

New too are symbols and pointers from space travel and research and from developing countries. One should be a German, said an African beside me, holding a foaming glass of German beer. Or, a child from the Ivory Coast, seen in the photograph, can go to school because the lumber company there not only trades but builds schools as well.

The message is often projected in word-play rather in trick photography. References are made for example, to *Uhrsachen* and *Aschermontagen* (instead of *Aschermittwochen*), which are presented as days of decision. Old proverbs are twisted. For example, *Wer bunte Schafe züchten könnte, hätte sein Schäfchen bald im Trockenen.* The egg of the computer instead of Columbus's egg is discovered.

Chemical firms prefer colourful effects. In the advertisements for consumer and capital goods the colours are quieter than those in the advertisements for artistic events or programmes. Proportionately, about sixty per cent of the posters are in colour.

Today's posters appeal to the intelligent to the sensible serious-minded individual. One publisher of works dealing with the history of propylaea, for example, attracted considerable attention with a photograph of sashes studded with decorations.

### Eye-catching copy writing

These advertisments are designed to appeal to a "mature" taste which has been refined in a world in which there is so much to see. Today, people are also able to enjoy the surprise effects of pop and op graphic art.

Also, people's refined sense of appreciation enables them to enjoy elegant word-play. Ordinary advertisements are accepted as a matter of course, everyone has a basic store of concepts, slogans and rhymes and enjoys seeing these being turned and twisted to convey an idea.

A display of outdoor advertising was also arranged for the first time in Munich. According to the organisers, this branch of advertising has great potential since people's way of looking at things has changed with the times.

Modern consumers travelling by road and rail assimilate unconsciously from filling stations along the way, through cities and countryside, what is offered them. Advertisers seek slogans that are as short and graphic symbols that are as compact as possible.

Between 200 and 300 industrial films are made yearly in the Federal Republic. Last year, a record 340 were turned out.

Many of these films were shown daily during the Munich exhibition. Films are used by industrial companies mainly to improve their image, if this needs improving.

The viewer is to be informed. Since information cannot be doled out on bloc, he must also be entertained by the film.

Spicing advertising films with the right measure of information and entertainment is an art in itself. Good directors and clever application of the artistic principles involved in such productions are the prime conditions of success. An appeal must be made to the heart as well as to the intellect.

Graphic artists, it was agreed in Munich, are to call themselves designers in future. (Hamburger Abendblatt, 11 June 1969)

# Advertising symposium meets in Munich

Minister of Economic Affairs Karl Schiller welcomed 2,600 delegates to a symposium on advertising in Munich. He called the delegates the "secret rulers of this world."

Professor Schiller said that the 16,000 million Marks spent on advertising in this country annually represents about one fifth of government spending on the Bundeswehr. "That is a comparison of one power with another," he said.

Advertising is necessary as a growth hormone in all sectors of the economy, according to Karl Schiller. Dr Wilhelm Tigges, president of the advertising agencies' association, said that advertising in competitive world is a means to maintain the momentum of industry and trade.

In an opening address Professor Karl Steinbuch, commemorating the twentieth anniversary of the foundation of the trade's association, predicted that "the familiar newspaper, technically more perfect and topical, will continue to be the principal medium of advertising in 2000. By then, three-dimensional colour television may have been introduced and also a new facility — the "immaterial" newspaper delivered to the house by TV-radio.

A long-term objective of communications media, which is also important in advertising, is an device about the side of a pocket watch and as easily within reach with which "very person in 2000 can be reached everywhere in sound and picture." (Frankfurter Neue Presse, 12 June 1969)

## MOTORING

# Scientist investigates the dangers of fatigue at the wheel

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

Driving is hard work both physically and mentally. Its physiological mechanisms of tiredness are in a class by themselves. Yet many a motorist only realises the fact when it is too late.

Professor Wolf Müller-Limroth, head of the department of work physiology at Munich Technical University, recently dealt in detail with these tiredness symptoms and their causes and repercussions in a paper delivered to specialists in casualty and traffic medicine.

Tiredness at the wheel is due not only to changes in the metabolism of cells in the cerebrum in the course of the day. A second factor is involved: the decline in activity at the body's central switchboard caused by monotony, continuous static muscular activity or strain.

Driving consists mainly of perceiving and processing sensual impressions by means of what is called static muscular activity and senso-motoric reactions.

These functions are all controlled, coordinated and passed on to the appropriate organs of sense or reaction by the central nervous system. This reticular formation is a closely-woven network of nerve cells and fibres between two sections of the brain.

Not a single nerve impulse from the body reaches the cerebrum and consciousness without having passed through this nervous tissue. Nor does any nervous stimulus reach its destination anywhere in the body without having passed through the central nervous system, for this is where it is beamed automatically at all organs concerned, regardless where it originated.

The sight of a child suddenly crossing the road, for instance, automatically triggers off reactions the motorist has learnt in the course of his experience. He brakes, moves to one side and sounds his horn. At the same time the central nervous system ensures that he brakes *and voers to the right extent. The system* is thus responsible both for perceiving, reacting immediately and correctly and grading finely the movements made.

The central nervous system does, however, need impulses to set this process in motion. It does so by means of differences in stimulus. The individual stimulus with its bioelectric potential runs right through the system without losing any energy.

Successive impulses of varying intensity, quality and other characteristics (will power, reports of movement from the muscles and emotional stimuli of varying degrees) activate the system as they pass through.

If these differences are lacking, the activity of the central nervous system declines as a result of the lack of inner tension. Monotony, physiological tiredness and strain all lessen the level of activity of the central nervous system. The upshot is slower reactions and a decline in perception.

Static muscular activity supplies monotonous impulses to the central switchboard. When traffic is completely monotonous, nothing can be made out in the dark and physical tiredness makes its appearance in the night, particularly driving in convoy, the level of reticular activity falling far below the minimum essential for driving.

Reaction times grow longer, sense impressions are reduced to a number of maximum-respone situations and muscular reactions are uncontrolled. Distances are misjudged, changes in the traffic situation are noted too late, the motorist brakes too late and too feebly and fright is the only reaction.

Completely exhausted drivers even begin to have hallucinations. Monotony and warmth imperceptibly dull attentiveness. At this stage the motorist has no reserves on which to call should the *traffic* situation require an immediate response and swift action.

The activity of the central nvervous system differs considerably from one person to the next. Practice can extend it but everyone has a limit. What is more, many drugs, particularly tranquilisers and alcohol, reduce central nervous activity over and above the process of tiring. Strong coffee can also vary in its effect. It can both stimulate and check responses.

Stimuli of varying kind, strength and origin are accordingly needed to activate the reticular formation in the brain. Static muscular activity must be interrupted by means of standing up, stretching and moving about. This prompts the receptors of depth sensitivity in the muscles to beam activating impulses the central nervous system.

Cool, moving air or water has the ... effect. The refreshing feeling of col... the skin is well enough known. ... more fatigued a person is, the more i... vals of bodily motion are necessary ... blood circulation back on an even ... too.

Blood should not be channelled ... from the central nervous syste... means of eating a hearty meal (... motorists should take a cat nap ... eating well). When setting out on ... motorists should not try to tur... daily rhythm upside-down from o... to the next.

### It concerns you!

These, of course, are all points th... known from practical experience ... many people feel they apply on... others, not to themselves. Prof. Müller-Limroth's researches prove ... hold general validity. To know the f... to be more liable to behave sensibly.

Tiredness is no excuse for neglige... something does happen. Tiredness of ... kind makes its presence felt in good ... to pull in and take a rest. Extr... tiredness only comes like a bolt out ... the blue in cases of illness, but when ... individual is ill he ought to realise th... cannot give of his best.

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 10 June 1969)

# L-drivers should practise more before being given a licence

Year by year the number of road deaths in this country reach divisional strength and the number of injuries is equivalent to the manpower of an entire army. It is only common sense to welcome any attempt to call a halt to the terrible carnage that takes place on the roads.

The Bonn hearing on automobile safety a few months ago was one such attempt. Yet occasionally good intentions go beyond the limits of common sense. This accusation must *be levelled* at ... proposal made at a *podium* discuss... held in Frankfurt.

Werner Hilff, president of the Federal Republic Driving Instructors' Association, came out in favour of a drastic increase ... the number of compulsory driving lessons learner drivers take. Eighty to 100 lessons at the wheel of the driving school's car, he claimed, a worthwhile target – in the interest of road safety, of course.

The only matter of course as far as the suggestion is concerned is an increase ... driving schools' takings, which are gradually on the decline now that demand has largely been met.

This is not to say that there is no truth in the argument that the present practice of sending people with a mere fifteen ... twenty hours' driving practice out on the roads with the ink still damp on their driving licences is less than adequate to the requirements of modern traffic.

Increasing the number of driving lessons taken fivefold is not the solution, though. First, the learner will develop a kind of hospitalitis. After benefiting from dual controls for so long he or she will no longer be able to manage without the swift reactions of the instructor in the passenger seat.

Second, holders of newly-issued licences tend to drive particularly carefully and considerately. They are not the drivers that represent a danger to road safety. The principal danger are old, ... motorists, a few genuine menaces and Sunday drivers.

What learner drivers gain too little experience of is driving on trunk roads and autobahns. This is what driving schools should concentrate on. No one can object to five or ten lessons more.

(DEUTSCHES ALLGEMEINES SONNTAGSBLATT, 8 June 1969)

# First aid first – then driving test

From 1 August all learner drivers in this country must provide proof before taking the driving test that they have gained basic knowledge of first aid for the injured on the roads.

According to the Westphalia-Lippe region of the Red Cross preparations to ensure that all learner drivers will be able to attend first aid courses have been completed.

Drivers who have attended first aid courses will be in a position to take the most urgent necessary steps on the spot.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 7 June 1969)

# Lufthansa proposes cut-rate flights

Lufthansa, who operate domestic services at an annual loss of at least ten million Marks, are to follow in the footsteps of the Bundesbahn and offer cut-rate flights within this country. Proposals are to be submitted shortly to the Federal Transport Ministry. There is talk of cuts of up to fifty per cent on the normal fares.

(Industriekurier, 7 June 1969)

**Look, no hands!** (Photo: Siemens)

**A control system developed by Siemens automatically operates Underground railcars. Automatic controls obviate the need for the driver in his cab to steer, brake and perform other manual control operations. He can concentrate fully on watching the line and the instrument panel. This is the stand of an automatic railcar used by Hamburg Underground. Express locomotives capable of speeds of up to 125 miles an hour will also increasingly go over to automation.**



## TECHNOLOGY

# Transport research cooperation with the Americans

This country and the United States intend to collaborate on transport research and exchange research data Transport Minister Leber and his opposite number John A. Volpe of the United States agreed in the course of a one-day fact-finding trip to Bonn made by the US official.

At a press conference Mr Volpe stated that the United States was ahead in research on air and road safety but willing to pass on its knowledge to this country. The Federal Republic, on the other hand, was ahead in urban express traffic and underground railway development.

(RHEIN-NECKAR-ZEITUNG, 11 June 1969)

# Oil pollution agreement

Countries bordering the North Sea are to increase cooperation in combating oil pollution. An agreement between this country, Belgium, Denmark, France, the Netherlands, Great Britain, Sweden and Northern Ireland was signed in Bonn recently by Foreign Minister Willy Brandt. Stranded and shipwrecked tankers such as the *Torrey Canyon* and the *Anne Mildred Broevig* have caused serious coastal and seawater pollution in recent years.

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 11 June 1969)

# Static jet engine development by Aerospace Association

DIE WELT
UNABHÄNGIGE TAGESZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

Near Trauen on the Lüneburg heath the Federal Republic Aerospace Research Association is working in conjunction with a domestic firm active in aerospace work on a new static jet engine capable of continuous acceleration from nil to Mach 5.

The idea of the static jet engine dates back to developments made during the Second World War. Walter Alvermann, the engineer in charge of the project, recently outlined the aims of the project at a symposium arranged jointly by the two organisations.

Fuel is continuously injected into the jet, which is open at both ends and slightly wider in front of the combustion chamber. Ignition in the combustion chamber, once only, and gases shoot out of both ends.

As long, then, as the aircraft is stationary the two impulses cancel one another out. As soon as it moves static pressure in the front of the jet is more powerful and the gas escapes more easily at the rear, providing additional thrust.

Conventional static jets functioned only when the aircraft had reached a speed of about 500 knots. The latest development is said to work from a standing start by means of artificial generation of pressure at the entrance to the tube.

As a result of the emission of gas low pressure is created in the combustion chamber, leading to the intake of fresh air. The new gas mixture ignites in the hot gas that remains in the chamber and the whole process is repeated – ninety times in the course of a single second. To begin with, then, the jet functions intermittently or by means of pulsation.

As in flight an increasingly powerful jet of pressurised air is blown against the intake opening. The Trauen engineers want to go to about the speed of sound (Mach 1) and then make the transition from pulsating to continual operation.

As the Mach rating increases the engine grows more efficient. The research team hope to crack the secret of continuous operation this year.

If everything goes according to plan this country, Herr Alvermann reckons, could make an appreciable contribution to space flight technology. It would seem possible one day to equip the first stage of spacecraft launchers with air-intake static jets instead of far more expensive rocket engines.

The Trauen researchers have another idea that would make static jets ready for use in space. A rocket engine could be fitted with a static jet mantle. The thrust of the rocket could be throttled near the Earth where enough air is available for the static jets. With increasing elevation the main part of propulsion would gradually be taken over by the conventional rocket engine.

(Photo: Messerschmitt/Bölkow)

(DIE WELT, 7 June 1969)

■ OUR WORLD

# Hamburg's Hagenbeck Zoo, the zoo without bars and fences

"Herr Hagenbeck will come very soon. Please take a seat for a moment," the attendant in a green uniform said. He lead me through the passageways of the famous building past the main doorway where the Pallenberg bronzes stand.

I was shown into the visitors room which looked over the park through large glass windows furnished like a club room with dark leather chairs and a dark wood table.

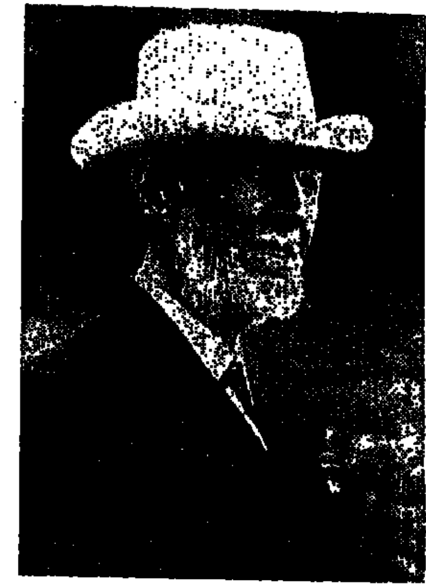
The eye fell *immediately* upon the portrait of Carl Hagenbeck who was born 125 years ago on 10 June. His name is famous all over the world.

On the left over a leather sofa there is a second portrait. This is of a fishmonger by the name of Gottfried Claas Hagenbeck, Carl's father. He brought seals to St Pauli in 1848 for the first time and thereby laid the foundations of an enterprise of which he never dreamt.

Below the picure of his great-grandfather Dietrich Hagenbeck has his desk. He is the junior director of the zoo which he manages in cooperation with his uncle, Carl-Heinrich Hagenbeck. Dietrich Hagenbeck is a resilient man who directs the family business, the fourth generation to do so, with a persistent passion. The zoo is now an immense enterprise and still kept going today without subsidies from the public purse.

Dietrich Hagenbeck did not know his great-grandfather, the man with the snow-white whiskers. The founder of the world famous zoo died a year before the First World War commenced. He was only able to enjoy the pleasure of seeing his life's work operating for six years. To bring his vision of having an animal park on the open plan to realisation he had to travel four continents in the world, firstly as a representative of a circus enterprise.

In this way Carl Hagenbeck was able to leave to his sons a firmly established

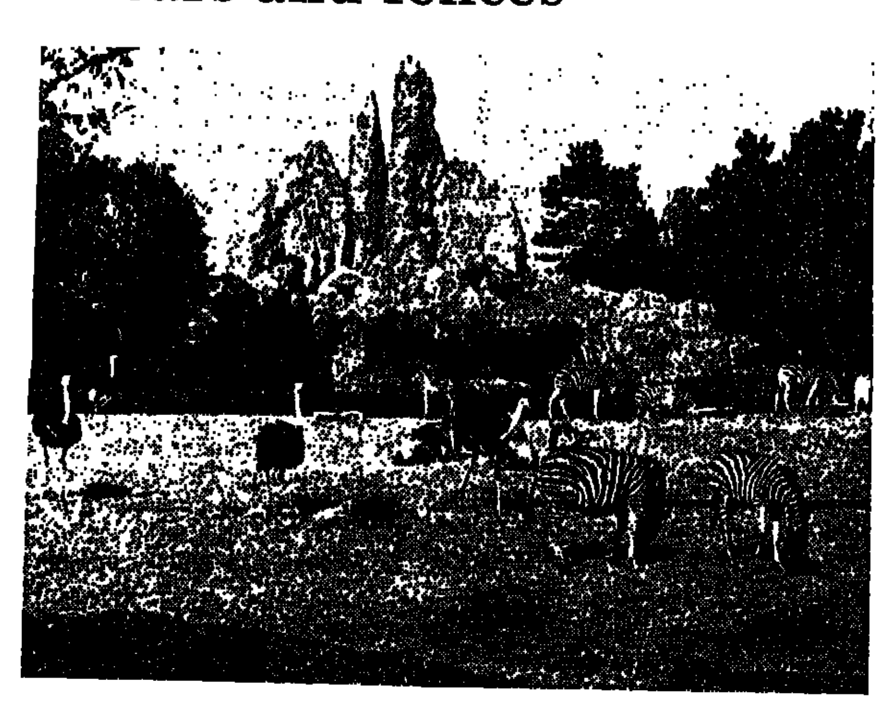


Carl Hagenbeck

inheritence. But in 1943 what had taken an immeasurable amount of time to build up was destroyed in one and a half hours by bombs. As much as 80 per cent of the animal park was reduced to ashes. Many of the animals did, however, survive, but few remain in the park today.

Now all the scars of war have been healed and the open plan zoo is as spick and span as it ever was, more so. The Hagenbecks are a family who possess qualities of toughness and far-sightedness.

"We had to give up the circus after the



The animals in an almost natural setting (Photos: Archiv)

Second World War," said Dietrich Hagenbeck. "There was at that time as many as 50 large, medium-sized and small circuses in this country. We spent a lot of money on it and we needed this cash for the zoo. We have also had to reduce our operations in dealing in animals generally.

"When new animals are ordered they have to go into quarantine at the place of capture. Then the animals have to be transported to this country and then they have to go once more into quarantine. A veterinary surgeon has to look after them and then there is customs duty to be paid. This costs a lot of money and the price goes up and up all the time.

"We no longer send out our own expeditions to catch animals. Previously we had hunters working for us all over the world, solely for the Hagenbeck enterprise. Then we did supply animals to other zoological institutions. But we have slowly withdrawn from being a broker in these affairs and the other zoos have their own contacts with whom they work direct."

I then asked: "But you breed animals? "

"Oh yes," Dietrich Hagenbeck answered. "We breed rare animals whose young we can sell elsewhere. Or exchange for other animals that we require. We give special emphasis to especially beautiful specimens and we are always acquiring animals that we have never before had.

"For example when my uncle went to New Dehli in 1956 in order to give advice for the plans for a national park in India he was offered not only a honorary degree but also a rhinoceros that was then very difficult to acquire. Eventually the Indian government gave permission for him to have it."

The Hagenbeck capital is an immense amount of special experience in travelling all over the world for zoological purposes. The zoo investigates every novelty that comes along until it becomes for them nothing very special.

It is not only necessary to be well aware of the behaviour of the animals but to be able to look after them and keep them in good health. It is also important, of course, to see that the animals are kept safely and safely kept as far as the public is concerned.

It is essential that the animals do not experience any kind of anxiety. This can be the motive behind the wildness that many creatures display. Anxiety can develop from the animal being in new surroundings. A sure way of reassuring the animals of their position is to have the same people looking after them all the time. If the creature becomes anxious then it is liable to bite, hammer with its hooves and generally act in a dangerous manner. Dangers that can beset an intruder into the animal's world can be avoided if the animal is used to being handled by human beings.

The days when animals and man were kept apart are a thing of the past. There should be as much contact as possible between animals and man.

The green reserve without bars gives the illusion of the animals living without barriers of any kind. Broad ditches and a zone which separates the animals from the human beings are the means of preventing death in the zoo.

Over the no-man's land the animals and the people eye each other, the animals and their natural enemy – man! Visitors to the zoo have only to pay 3.50 Marks at the cash desk and they can wander round the zoo in contact with the animals, but protected, and able to feed them.

But who knows which animals to feed? The provisions for the animals provided by the zoo includes meat, and vegetables, plants and chemical food stuffs. The public give the animals bread, nuts and sugar. But too much sugar given to many animals day after day can, unless supervision is applied, cause the death of an animal.

Incedible, hard things, offered by unknowing children or in thoughtlessness can also cause illness or even death to many animals in the zoo.

"A walrus," said Dietrich Hagenbeck, "for instance takes his food by suction. His powers of suction are considerable. He can drag out the plug in his swimming basin with one breath, a feat that would take a fairly strong man no amount of effort. The creature pokes his nose on everything that lies on the ground. Just imagine what would happen if a child has thrown a ball in the animal's vicinity."

The notice "Please do not feed the animals" thus has greater implications than would at first appear. According to the Hagenbeck family man should encounter the animals without causing trouble either way.

To do this the middle way has had to be discovered. Animals need to live their lives in the way that nature intended them to do. And more than a million people go to the Hagenbeck zoo in Hamburg annually to see the animals. They are able to see the animals as they naturally are without fear.

(DIE WELT, 7 June 1969)

## Every other person still lives where he or she was born

More than forty per cent of all the people in the Federal Republic still live in the same place where they were born. Eleven per cent moved to their present homes before the end of the last war.

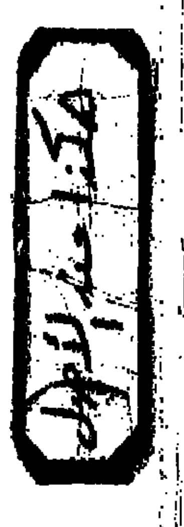
These figures were presented in a report written by a Bad Godesberg institute dealing with social-economic questions.

The survey continued that the other half of the population had moved to their present homes in the first few years immediately following the War's end.

Seven per cent of all adults, that is about three million people, moved to their present homes the past three years.

It was interesting to note from the report that men are considerably more prone to remain in their birthplace than are women. (Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 21 June 1969)







■ SPORT

# Meier wins European welter weight championship



Günter Meier (Photo: Horstmüller)

"That," said Günther Meier, "is that. I may not have been allowed to become Federal Republic champion but instead I am now European champion." These were his first words after a deserved victory, flooring his opponent in the third round, against Victor Silbermann of Rumania in the welterweight final of the eighteenth European amateur boxing championships.

Bundeswehr corporal Meier's satisfaction at this rehabilitation was plain enough. He is still hopping mad about being disqualified by Berlin referee Bös for using his head in the national championships.

"Here in Bucharest I deliberately held my head even lower but not once was I warned for butting in my four bouts here," the engaging young man adds by way of underlining the dubiousness of the Berlin judgement.

In annoyance at this decision Meier had announced after the national championships that he would no longer box for his country, but head coach Dieter Wemhöner succeeded in persuading the Mexico City bronze medallist to change his mind. And in Bucharest Günther Meier was the only West European to break the monopoly of Eastern bloc boxers.

Meier is a dedicated boxer although the best of luck has not always come his way. Because he is a soldier he was not allowed to take part in the 1965 European championships in East Berlin and two years later he was unable to take part in the Rome championships because of injury.

Broken collar-bones, shoulder-blades, a broken nose and hand injuries have continually handicapped southpaw Meier in his boxing career but nothing has stopped him from ambitiously carrying on.

His first major success was at last year's Olympic Games in Mexico City when he won the light middleweight bronze medal. But this was not enough for the three-time Federal Republic champion. In order to boost his prospects he decided to sweat off a few pounds and box only at welterweight.

"After Mexico I trained two hours a day and did two miles cross-country late in the evening. Over the past few weeks I have drunk next to nothing. I was deter-

Münchner Merkur
Münchener Zeitung für Politik, Wirtschaft, Kultur und Sport

mined to lose as little substance as possible despite changing to a lower weight. Not until after the cross-country run did I allow myself a pint of beer, and by then I had earned it."

On the side, as it were, 27-year-old Meier completed his training for promotion to corporal after the Olympics too. He is now an instructor at Altenstadt paratroop training squadron.

"I really owe a lot to the Bundeswehr," he says. "Only very occasionally has there been any difficulty about leave or training. Even so, I wonder whether life as a professional soldier is for me. I would really prefer to be a sports instructor," the newly-crowned European champion reckons.

Maybe this is a case for the ABA to step in. As soon as he has decided on a career Günther Meier, who is engaged to a young sports mistress, intends to marry. Will this mean an end to boxing? "No, on no account. In 1972 I want to win another medal at the Munich Olympics."

(Müncher Merkur, 10 June 1969)

## Max Schmeling comments on the future boxing

*The outcome of the European amateur boxing championships is encouraging only for the superficial observer. Günther Meier may have won gold and Peter Hussing bronze but none of this country's other representatives even reached the semi-finals in their respective weights. Is the crisis in boxing in this country hopeless? None other than Max Schmeling, professional world heavyweight champion from 1930 to 1932, the man who beat Brown Bomber Joe Louis and still the idol of millions, here voices his own expert opinion.*

Max Schmeling, is there any hope for boxing?

"Oh yes, I take an optimistic view. Only a few good people need to appear, like this Günther Meier or heavyweight Peter Hussing, about whom I am particularly pleased, of course, and public interest in boxing is back immediately."

Must there be idols?

"Of course, there have to be in every sport. When I started Jack Dempsey of America was my ideal. They are the people youngsters try to emulate and boxing particularly needs them."

But the idols have always been professionals like yourself.

"Yes, and that is why professional boxing needs good amateurs. And the amateurs, again, need first-class professionals. Neither can do without the other."

It does not seem to have much effect at the moment.

"There is no incentive. Young people earn too much. How is a young amateur going to react to an offer of 600 Marks for his first professional bout? He can earn better money at work."

Does an amateur stand any chance of earning good money as professional?

"Not half. The prospects have never been as good. If a man is well built up – and a great deal of sins are committed there – he can box his way to the top in two years. That has never been possible in the past."

Are there not other reasons for the wretched state boxing is in?

"Of course, any number. There is, mainly, the sociological problem. Boxers generally come from the lower classes. And who is going to lay himself open to charges of that sort these days? ."

Back to the amateurs. Do you know this country's team?

"At Mexico City I spent all my time in the boxing arena. Even though a few people may think differently, this country's boys were every bit of match for their opponents in terms of technique."

Yet they are still not world class.

"They lack the toughness. To win a tournament, which is what the European championships were, you need to have enormous staying power. This calls for will power, energy and hunger for success."

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 10 June 1969)

## Evenly-matched contestants at Bucharest championships

Europe's amateur boxers are a stage further but it is doubtful whether they have made real progress. In none of the seventeen European championships prior to Bucharest were there so many encounters between evenly-matched contestants. Only 29 of 169 bouts in the Rumanian capital failed to go the full distance.

There has, then, been a general increase in standards. Only a few years ago the Rumanians, Bulgarians and Yugoslavs had stamina and fight but lacked technique while the French and the British lacked physique. Both have improved.

From this country's viewpoint the final outcome appears more than satisfactory. In his 237th fight since 1957, of which 226 have been won, three drawn and eight lost, Günther Meier more than won the welterweigth crown.

The paratroop corporal from Altenstadt defeated 22-year-old Victor Silbermann from Bucharest by a 4:1 points decision to become, together with successful title defenders Valeri Frolov and Dan Pozniak and their fellow-countrymen Valeri Tregubov and Vladimir Tarasenkov of the Soviet Union, one of the most impressive champions.

But one Meier does not make an amateur boxing summer, even though 21-year-old youngster Peter Hussing won a heavyweight bronze. The optical impresion conveyed by the oversized team was none too spectacular. Every one of the other eight boxers waved goodbye to the ring after his first bout.

This country's amateur boxing association may have won its twentieth European gold medal and its tenth since 1945 at Bucharest but it has still reached a turning-point at which no longer words but only actions count.

One point is clear. The present training and selection methods must be abandoned. The manager and head coach must at long last gain a clear idea of direction.

Without regional centres and increasing use of additional regional trainers, who must, however, be kept better in the picture, without systematic rather than haphazard training of promising youngsters, without the possible engagement of foreign coaches (Eugen Fueresz of Rumania and others are available) a step in the right direction will not be made,

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 10 June 1969)